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# Characteristics of Work Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine, 2003

Maine Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Standards

Steven P. Laundrie

*Maine Department of Labor*, [steven.p.laundrie@maine.gov](mailto:steven.p.laundrie@maine.gov)

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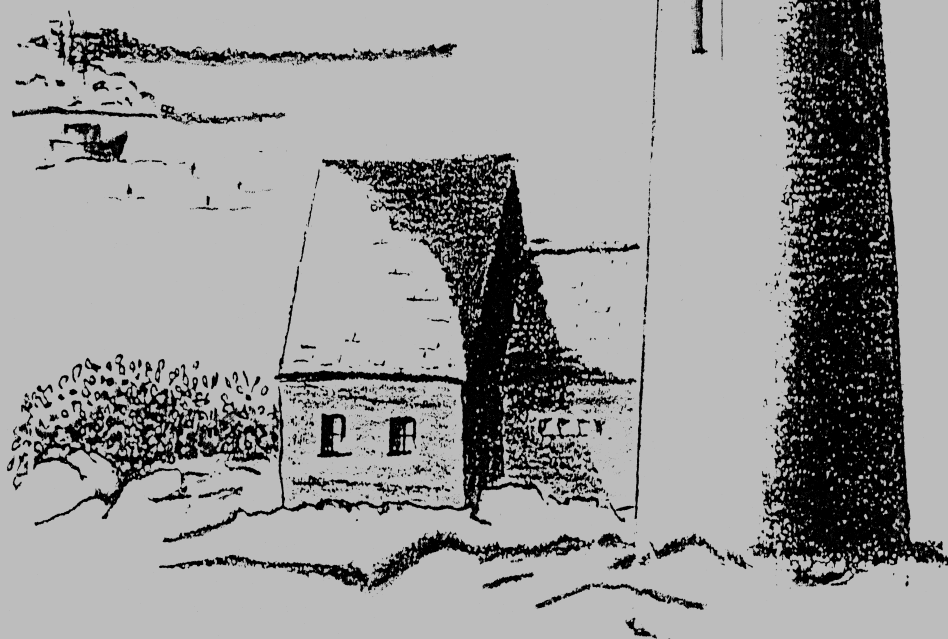
# MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF

# LABOR

*Labor Standards*

## Characteristics of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine 2003



# ***Characteristics of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine, 2003, Highlights***

In 2003, there was a 5.1% decrease in the annual total count of Workers' Compensation disabling *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports, reported cases in which the employee lost at least one day of work beyond the day of injury or illness), from 15,854 first reports in 2002 to 15,049. This continues a decline from a recent high of 17,263 in the year 2000.

- ✓ 22% of all first reports originated from the top five industries. In descending order, they were: elementary and secondary schools; grocery stores; department stores; general medical and surgical hospitals; and ship building and repairing. Of note, department store first reports more than doubled from 2002 to 2003, from 288 to 649 first reports.
- ✓ 21% of all first reports involved the top four occupations. In descending order, they were: truck drivers; nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants; nonconstruction laborers; and janitors and cleaners.
- ✓ 37% of first reports involved workers of age 45 or older.
- ✓ One-third of first reports involved workers with less than one year experience with their current employer. Employees with less than two years experience were involved in 46%. Of note, since 2002 there was a 25% increase in first reports involving workers with 15 to 19 years experience, from 724 to 903 first reports.
- ✓ 19% of all first reports identified bodily motion/position of injured worker as the source of the disabling injury or illness.
- ✓ 28% of all first reports listed overexertion of one type or another (lifting, pulling, pushing, etc.) as the event that accounted for the injury or illness.
- ✓ 31% of all first reports reported the nature of the injury or illness as sprains, strains, or tears.
- ✓ 21% of first reports indicated the back, including lumbar region, as the part of body affected.



JOHN ELIAS BALDACC'I  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
BUREAU OF LABOR STANDARDS  
45 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0045

LAURA A. FORTMAN  
COMMISSIONER

WILLIAM A. PEABODY  
Director

# Characteristics of Work-related Injuries and Illnesses in Maine 2003

Theodore E. Bradstreet, Planning and Research Associate  
Steven P. Laundrie, Statistician

April 2005

Augusta, Maine

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## **BACKGROUND AND DEFINITIONS**

### **Background**

Under the authority of Title 26 MRSA § 42-A, the Maine Department of Labor Research and Statistics Unit collects and compiles data on workplace injuries and illnesses. An important source of this information are the Maine Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports) and related paperwork as submitted by employers or their insurers to the WCB to process claims and meet the requirements of the Workers' Compensation Law. These documents capture a broad range of information about any reported work-related injury or illness. The Research and Statistics Unit codes WCB data about each case of injury or illness resulting in at least one day away from work beyond the day of injury (a disabling case) directly onto the WCB database via on-line connection. At least once a month, WCB data are downloaded to a data warehouse where they are available to respond to specific queries, generally by cross-tabulation with other related information.

This report examines the WCB disabling-case data for the year 2003 in terms of the following eight characteristics of injury or illness: (1) industry, (2) occupation of injured worker, (3) nature of injury or illness, (4) event or exposure, (5) source of injury or illness, (6) part of body affected, (7) age of the injured worker and (8) length of service of the injured worker (all as defined below). The reasons for examining these characteristics are as follows:

- 1) The analysis provides insights as to the “where” (industry), “who” (occupation, age, and length of service of the injured worker), “how” (event or exposure and source of injury or illness), and “what” (nature of injury or illness and part of body affected) questions about occupational injuries and illnesses sustained by Maine workers in 2003.
- 2) This report is meant to serve as an example of queries possible with this data source. Each WCB file contains detailed data about the employee, the employer, the incident and the associated Workers' Compensation claim beyond what is used here. General information is in the public domain but the release of employee-specific information must be approved by the WCB. This means that case characteristic information can be generated for an individual company, or groups of companies or of cases, rather than the statewide approach of this report. This report is intended to encourage requests for specific inquiries using the WCB data to improve occupational safety and health in Maine workplaces.

There are certain limitations to such inquiry, including this report, as follows:

- 1) The WCB data are not comparable to data generated by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics *Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses* (SOII) because:
  - a. The definitions of “recordable case” under OSHA (used by SOII) and the WCB are different from one another. Injuries or illnesses that are recordable by WCB standards may not be recordable by OSHA standards and *vice versa*.

- b. Annual average numbers of employees and total hours worked per employer are not collected by the WCB. This means that incidence rates cannot be produced for the WCB data.
- 2) Workers' Compensation laws vary from state to state, making comparisons among states difficult.
- 3) The consistency of the coding is subject to the individual coder's interpretation.
- 4) Perhaps most importantly, the quality of the data is subject to the quality of answers provided on the first reports. These reports are to be filed within 7 days of an employer learning about a case, and complete information is not always available at that point. Completion/correction is possible, and in some cases required, but the WCB has no systematic means of verifying compliance.
- 5) Lastly, since 1993, only disabling cases have been coded. This means that cases with job transfer or job restriction but no lost time cannot be examined at this time.

### **Definitions**

The following is an alphabetical list of definitions of terms and abbreviations used in this report.

***Age of injured worker:*** the age of the injured worker at the time of injury, calculated from the worker's date of birth and the date of injury.

***Disabling:*** resulting in at least one day away from work beyond the day of injury or illness.

***Event or exposure:*** the manner in which the injury or illness was produced or inflicted by the Source of the injury or illness.

***First report(s):*** *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease*, the standard form on which an employer or employer's representative makes initial report to the WCB of an occupational injury or illness affecting one of its workers. **For the purposes of this report, this includes reports of disabling cases only.**

***FROI:*** *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease*, see first reports above.

***Industry:*** the business in which the injured worker was actually employed at the time of injury or illness.

***Length of service of the injured worker:*** the injured worker's length of service with the employer at the time of injury or illness, calculated from date of hire and date of injury or illness. Date of hire is not always available.

**Maine Occupational Research Agenda (MORA):** An occupational safety and health research agenda modeled on the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) and managed by the MORA Steering Committee.

**Nature of injury or illness:** the principal physical characteristic(s) of the injury or illness.

**Nonclassifiable:** insufficient data to allow classification.

**Not elsewhere classifiable (NEC):** not classifiable among other standard classifications.

**Occupation of injured worker:** the occupation in which the injured worker was actually engaged at the time of injury or illness (this may not be the worker's regular occupation or job class).

**Part of body affected:** the part(s) of the injured worker's body directly affected by the nature of the injury or illness.

**SIC:** Standard Industrial Classification code. A four-digit code assigned to an employer to classify the establishment by the type of activity in which it is engaged.

**Source of injury or illness:** the object, substance, bodily motion, or work environment that directly produced or inflicted the injury or illness.

**Unspecified (UNS):** insufficient data for more detailed classification.

**WCB:** Maine Workers' Compensation Board.

## **SUMMARY**

Reports of work-related injuries and illnesses that cost the worker time away from work declined slightly in 2003, from 15,854 first reports in 2002 to 15,049, a 5.1% decrease. This continues a decline from a recent high of 17,263 in the year 2000.

As to where Maine workers were injured, the five industries that recorded the highest frequencies of disabling-case first reports in 2003 accounted for 21.8% (3,278 cases) of all 2003 first reports. They were, in descending order: elementary and secondary schools (SIC 8211); grocery stores (SIC 5411); department stores (SIC 5311); general medical and surgical hospitals (SIC 8062); and ship building and repairing (SIC 3731). Four of these five are service or retail industries. Of note, the first reports originating in department stores more than doubled from 2002 to 2003, from 288 to 649 first reports.

Workers injured were examined in terms of three characteristics, occupation, age, and length of service of the injured worker. The four occupations that filed the highest numbers of first reports in 2003 were, in descending order: truck drivers; nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants; nonconstruction laborers; and janitors and cleaners. These four occupations accounted for 21.1% (3,179 cases) of all 2003 first reports. Janitors and cleaners were a particularly high proportion of reported injured workers in elementary and secondary schools (28.2%, 193 cases), indicating a need for further study of that occupation within that industry. Of concern also is the rise in the number of reported disabling injuries to stock handlers and baggers from 2002 to 2003, from 297 first reports to 382, a 29% increase.

While the top ranking age group varied somewhat with occupation, overall the 35-44 years group produced the most first reports, with 27.4% (4,123 cases) of all 2003 first reports. Of note is the fact that the 45-54 years group ranked second and workers over 45 years of age filed 36.6% (5,506) of all first reports. This proportion is up slightly from the 35.3% of all first reports in 2002 and up substantially from the 27.1% in 1995. Of interest, 40.4% of all truck driver first reports, 32.1% of all nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants first reports, and 54.8% of all janitors and cleaners first reports involved workers of age 45 or older. In comparison, workers under 35 years of age filed 36.0% of all first reports (5,420 cases). The proportion of first reports originating with older workers therefore seems high.

By far the leading length-of-service group was under one year. However, from 2002 to 2003, there was a 25% increase in the number of first reports involving workers with 5 through 14 years experience.

The mechanism of worker injury or illness was examined through two characteristics, source of injury or illness, and event or exposure. Overall, the leading source by far was the bodily motion or position of the injured worker. This source was identified in 18.6% of all 2003 first reports. It produced 2,797 first reports; more than double the second-ranking source and four to six times the frequencies shown by most of the top ten sources. There were important exceptions by occupation, however, notably among nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants. Health care patient or resident of health care facility was the source of 50.9% (446 cases) of disabling injuries and illnesses reported from that occupation. Of injuries and illnesses from

this source, 42.5% (305 cases) affected the back. The top-ranking age group impacted by this source was 25-34 years.

The two highest-ranking events or exposures stood out well above all others. **Overexertion in lifting, the first ranked, appeared in 15.4% of all 2003 first reports (2,312 cases), and had nearly double the frequency of first reports of the second-ranked, fall to floor, walkway, or other surface.** Four of the top ten events involved overexertion and, taken together, accounted for 28.4% of all 2003 first reports (4,267 cases). Events of this type are known to produce a high frequency of musculoskeletal injuries.

The kinds of injuries and illnesses reported by Maine workers are described through two characteristics, nature of injury or illness, and part of body affected. The highest-ranking nature, sprains, strains, and tears, was reported in 4,624 first reports in 2003, more than any other characteristic examined here. By itself, it accounted for 30.7% of all 2003 first reports. The top three natures -- sprains, strains, and tears; nonback soreness, pain, or hurt; and back pain or hurt back -- are all musculoskeletal. This makes it clear that musculoskeletal injuries dominated 2003 workplace injuries and illnesses in Maine.

The part of body affected varied considerably. Of note however is the fact that first-ranked lumbar region and third-ranked back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified, when combined accounted for 21.3% of all reported disabling cases (3,200 first reports). This outcome suggests a connection between back injuries and overexertion in lifting discussed under "Event."

Areas that could bear further study are:

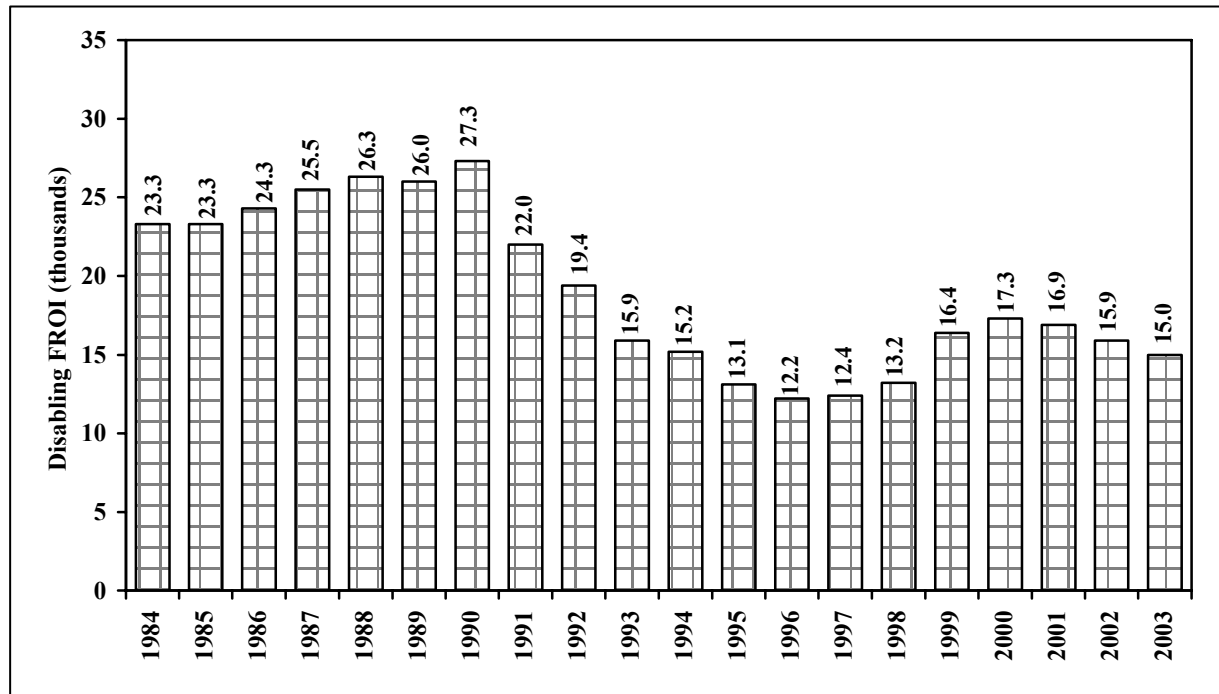
- Injuries and illnesses of truck drivers.
- Causes of injury to janitors and cleaners in elementary and secondary schools.
- The age distribution of injuries and illnesses of janitors and cleaners in general.
- Why "new hires" appear to be at much higher risk of injury or illness.
- Reducing the number of injuries and illnesses with the source identified as bodily motion/position of injured worker.
- Reducing the number of injuries to nursing aides, orderlies and attendants due to health care patients or resident of health of care facilities.
- Reducing the frequency of overexertion-in-lifting incidents.
- Causes and preventative measures for musculoskeletal disorders.
- Injuries and illnesses of workers age 45 and older.

- Injuries and illnesses of department store workers.
- Injuries and illnesses of stock handlers and baggers.

## SECTION 1: OVERALL TREND OF FIRST REPORTS

There were 15,049 first reports filed in 2003, a 5.1% decrease from the 15,854 in 2002, as shown in Figure 1-1. This change is a continuation of a decline from a recent high point of 17,263 first reports in calendar year 2000. Figure 1-1 below shows the annual totals of disabling work-related injuries and illness for the last 20 years as reported on Workers' Compensation Board *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports).

**FIGURE 1-1: Twenty-Year Comparison of First Reports Annual Totals**





## SECTION 2: THE MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED CHARACTERISTICS OF WORK-RELATED INJURIES AND ILLNESSES

### Overview

This section provides a broad view of the most-reported characteristics of work-related injury and illness for 2003. It details information about six standard characteristics of occupational injury or illness, industry, occupation, nature of injury or illness, event or exposure, source of injury or illness, and part of body affected (Tables 2-1 through 2-6). Within each characteristic, this section examines the ten categories that recorded the highest frequencies of disabling case *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports) in 2003. The categories are listed in descending order under each characteristic. The top five categories for each characteristic will be examined in detail in later sections of this report. Age of the injured worker and length of service are also examined here. **For all characteristics, the total number of first reports for 2003 was 15,049.**

### Industry

Industry describes the kind of business in which the injured worker's employer was engaged. Table 2-1 presents the ten industries (characterized by four-digit Standard Industrial Classification, or SIC, code) reporting the highest frequency of first reports for 2003. Together, these ten industries accounted for 34.9% of the total first reports filed in 2003. Among the ten industries were one manufacturing and one construction industry, the remaining eight being service or retail industries. Of note, the reported number of first reports in department stores more than doubled from 2002 to 2003, from 288 first reports to 649.

**TABLE 2-1: Top Ten Industries of Injured Worker**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Industry of Injured Worker</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Elementary and secondary schools	688
2	Grocery stores	680
3	Department stores	649
4	General medical and surgical hospitals	643
5	Ship building and repairing	618
6	Eating places	585
7	Skilled nursing care facilities	557
8	Residential care	302
9	Single-family house construction	274
10	Individual and family social services	260

**Occupation of Injured Worker**

Occupation describes the type of job held by the worker at the time of the injury or illness. The ten occupations that recorded the highest frequencies of first reports in 2003 are presented in Table 2-2. These ten occupations taken together accounted for 34.5% of year 2003 first reports. The top four occupations each produced considerably higher first reports counts than any of the lower six and are therefore expected to be important in the detailed analysis to follow. Also of interest, the number of first reports involving stock handlers and baggers increased almost 30%, from 297 first reports in 2002 to 382 in 2003.

**TABLE 2-2: Top Ten Occupations of Injured Worker**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Occupation of Injured Worker</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Truck drivers	902
2	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	877
3	Laborers-except construction	805
4	Janitors and cleaners	595
5	Stock handlers and baggers	382
6	Cashiers	351
7	Construction laborers	346
8	Carpenters	327
9	Kitchen workers, food preparation	323
10	Freight/stock/material handlers, NEC	288

*NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.*

**Nature of Injury or Illness**

Nature of injury or illness identifies the principal physical characteristic(s) of the injury or illness. The top ten natures listed in Table 2-3 were involved in 82.5% of all first reports reported in 2003. The number one nature (sprains, strains, and tears) accounted for 30.7% by itself and had nearly double the first reports of the second ranked nature (nonback soreness, pain, or hurt). The second ranked nature, in turn, had nearly double the frequency of the third ranked. Thereafter, the decline in frequencies was less steep. Because the top three natures are all musculoskeletal, it is clear that musculoskeletal injuries dominate workplace injuries and illnesses.

**TABLE 2-3: Top Ten Natures of Injury or Illness**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Nature of Injury/Illness</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Sprains, strains, tears	4,624
2	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	2,362
3	Back pain, hurt back	1,352
4	Bruises, contusions	1,045
5	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	841
6	Cuts, lacerations	745
7	Fractures	687
8	Neurotic reaction to stress	293
9	Nonclassifiable	275
10	Carpal tunnel syndrome	190

**Event or Exposure**

Event or exposure describes the manner in which the injury or illness was produced or inflicted by the source of injury or illness. While the top ten events taken together represent 55.3% of all 2003 first reports, the first ranked, overexertion in lifting, accounted for 15.4% by itself. Three more of the top ten events involved overexertion and all four overexertion events taken together totaled 4,267 claims, or 28.4% of all first reports. Events of this type have been shown elsewhere to produce a high frequency of musculoskeletal injuries. Also of note, the second ranked event (fall to floor, walkway or other surface) accounted for nearly twice the frequency of the third highest event.

**TABLE 2-4: Top Ten Events or Exposures**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Event of Injury/Illness</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Overexertion in lifting	2,312
2	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	1,470
3	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	760
4	Overexertion, unspecified	715
5	Nonclassifiable	656
6	Slip, trip, loss of balance-without fall	521
7	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting	501
8	Bodily conditions, NEC	484
9	Overexertn holdg, carryg, turng, wieldg obj	480
10	Repetitive motion, unspecified	428

*NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.*

**Source of Injury or Illness**

Source of injury or illness identifies the object, substance, bodily motion, or work environment which directly produced or inflicted the injury or illness. Table 2-5 lists the top ten sources of occupational injuries and illnesses from 2003 first reports. These ten sources accounted for 54.6% of first reports. The leading source of injury or illness, bodily motion/position of injured worker, accounted for 18.6% of all first reports for 2003. This was almost three times as high as the second ranked source, nonclassifiable.

**TABLE 2-5: Top Ten Sources of Injury or Illness**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Source of Injury/Illness</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	2,797
2	Nonclassifiable	1,237
3	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	717
4	Floor of building	705
5	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	628
6	Boxes, crates, cartons	593
7	Ground	518
8	Bodily conditions of injured, ill worker	496
9	Other sources, NEC	330
10	Doors	201

*NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.*

**Part of Body Affected**

Part of body affected identifies the part of the body directly affected by the nature of injury or illness. Just about two thirds of all 2003 first reports fell into these top ten part categories. Of note, lumbar region, together with back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified, accounted for over 20% of all first reports. These data suggest a possible connection between back injuries and the high frequency of overexertion in lifting discussed under “Event.”

**TABLE 2-6: Top Ten Parts of Body Affected**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Part of Body</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Lumbar region	1,785
2	Multiple body parts	1,555
3	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	1,415
4	Knee(s)	1,154
5	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	973
6	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	884
7	Wrist(s)	741
8	Ankle(s)	643
9	Body Systems	579
10	Hand(s), except finger(s)	442

*UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification.*

**Age of Injured Worker**

For the purpose of this analysis, the ages of the workers reporting disabling injuries and illnesses in 2003 were broken down into ten inclusive age categories, ranked according to the first reports generated by each (Table 2-7). The 40-44 year age group ranked highest, with 14.4% of all year 2003 first reports, but four of the top five age groups, covering the range from 30 to 49 years, were close to one another in frequencies of first reports and together accounted for 52.4% of all first reports. In fourth place, however, was the 19-24 years age group with 12.4% of the total and widely separated from the under 19 and 25-29 year groups. Of note, 5,506 first reports (36.6% of all 2003 first reports) involved employees of age 45 years or older. Workplace injuries and illnesses in an aging workforce are a research priority identified by MORA.

**TABLE 2-7: Ten Age Categories.**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	40-44	2,173
2	45-49	1,987
3	35-39	1,950
4	19-24	1,871
5	30-34	1,784
6	50-54	1,565
7	25-29	1,444
8	55-59	1,118
9	60 and above	836
10	Under 19	321

**Length of Service of Injured Worker**

Length of service of the injured worker represents the time in service with the particular employer by whom the worker was employed at the time of injury or illness. It does not necessarily represent the total experience of a worker in the occupation in which the worker was injured. Length of service of the injured worker was divided into eight inclusive length-of-service categories. Workers with two or less years of service with their employer accounted for 45.7% of all first reports in 2003, whereas workers with ten or more years of service with their employer accounted for 21.2%. Of note, first reports involving workers with 15 through 19 years service increased by 25% from 2002 to 2003, from 724 first reports to 903. Length of service was not available for 425 cases in 2003 because the date of hire was not reported on the first reports.

**TABLE 2-8: Eight Length-of-Service Categories**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Length of Service</i>	<i>FROI</i>
1	Under 1 Year	5,016
2	1 year to 2 years	1,868
3	5-9 years	1,774
4	3-4 years	1,613
5	10-14 years	1,343
6	2 years to 3 years	1,170
7	20 years and above	937
8	15-19 years	903



### SECTION 3: THE TOP FIVE INDUSTRIES

#### Overview.

The first characteristic to be discussed in detail is industries in which disabling cases were reported to have occurred. Specifically, this section will present information on the five industries with the highest reported frequencies of disabling case Maine Workers' Compensation Board *Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease* (first reports). Together, these five industries accounted for 21.8% of all first reports for 2003. Table 3-1 lists the top five industries in descending order by frequency of first reports for 2003. The industries are categorized at the four-digit level of SIC coding. One manufacturing industry is listed, ship building and repairing (SIC 3731), in fifth place. Elementary and secondary schools (SIC 8211) had the highest frequency of first reports, followed by grocery stores (SIC 5411).

For each industry, the top five each of occupation of the injured or ill worker, nature of the injury or illness, part of the body affected, source of the injury or illness, and event of the injury or illness are tabulated by the first reports count and percentage for that industry. **The tabulated characteristics refer to that industry as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics.** For example, the 27.6% of nature of injury or illness (sprains, strains, and tears) in the first row of the third column of Table 3-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported by janitors and cleaners only but by ALL occupations within elementary and secondary schools, including those occupations not listed.

While differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between these top five Industries were considerable, there were elements shared in common.

- Sprains, strains, and tears was by far the number one reported nature of injury or illness for all top five industries, averaging 36.9% of first reports. Nonback soreness, pain, or hurt was also common to all five industries under nature and averaged 14.7%.
- As to the source of injury or illness, bodily motion/position of injured worker averaged 19.5% and ranked first in three of the top five industries and second in the other two. Floor of building was also common to all five industries, generally ranking fourth or fifth.
- Under part of body affected, either lumbar region or back, unspecified always ranked at least second, and the two combined averaged 20.6%.
- Overexertion in lifting ranked first or second in all five industries, averaging 17.8% of first reports. Events classified as "overexertion" and "repetitive motion" accounted for between 16% and 40% of each of the top five Industries' first reports. Research has shown that these events are significant factors contributing to such musculoskeletal disorders as sprains, strains and tears, soreness, back pains, tendonitis, carpal tunnel syndrome, etc.

**TABLE 3-1: Cross Tabulations of the Top Five Industries and the Characteristics of Injuries Within These Industries**

INDUSTRY	OCCUPATION*		NATURE*		PART OF BODY*				
	FROI	%	FROI	%	FROI	%			
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (688 FROI)	Janitors and cleaners	193	28.2	Sprains, strains, tears	190	27.6	Multiple body parts	99	14.4
	Elementary school teachers	92	13.4	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	92	13.4	Lumbar region	90	13.1
	Bus drivers	65	9.5	Bruises, contusions	66	9.6	Body Systems	56	8.1
	Special education teachers	55	8.0	Back pain, hurt back	65	9.4	Knee(s)	54	7.8
	Secondary school teachers	39	5.7	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	61	8.9	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	39	5.7
GROCERY STORES (680 FROI)	Stock handlers and baggers	159	23.4	Sprains, strains, tears	228	33.5	Lumbar region	96	14.1
	Laborers, except construction	109	16.1	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	123	18.1	Multiple body parts	69	10.1
	Kitchen workers, food preparation	98	14.4	Back pain, hurt back	60	8.8	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	58	8.5
	Cashiers	89	13.1	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	48	7.1	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	57	8.3
	Supervisors/proprietors-sales occupation	60	8.8	Cuts, lacerations	48	7.1	Knee(s)	48	7.1
DEPARTMENT STORES (649 FROI)	Stock handlers and baggers	149	23.0	Sprains, strains, tears	322	49.6	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	88	13.6
	Cashiers	107	16.5	Bruises, contusions	106	16.3	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	59	9.1
	Sales workers, other commodities	70	10.8	Cuts, lacerations	56	8.6	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	49	7.6
	Freight/stock/material handlers, NEC	58	8.9	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	27	4.2	Lumbar region	49	7.6
	Sales counter clerks	51	7.9	Back pain, hurt back	15	2.3	Wrist(s)	37	5.7
GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS (643 FROI)	Registered nurses	146	22.8	Sprains, strains, tears	338	52.6	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	137	21.3
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	96	15.0	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	62	9.6	Lumbar region	69	10.7
	Janitors and cleaners	67	10.5	Bruises, contusions	44	6.8	Knee(s)	60	9.3
	Health aides, except nursing	34	5.3	Back pain, hurt back	27	4.2	Multiple body parts	50	7.8
	Health technologists/technicians, NEC	32	5.0	Neurotic reaction to stress	21	3.3	Body systems	44	6.8
SHIP BUILDING AND REPAIRING (618 FROI)	Lay-out workers	95	15.4	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	173	28.0	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	103	16.7
	Welders and cutters	86	13.9	Sprains, strains, tears	130	21.0	Knee(s)	81	13.1
	Miscellaneous precision metal workers	79	12.8	Back pain, hurt back	72	11.7	Multiple body parts	65	10.5
	Plumber, pipefitter, and steamfitter	54	8.7	Bruises, contusions	30	4.9	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	43	7.0
	Electricians	50	8.1	Symptoms inv nervous/musculoskel	30	4.9	Eye(s)	29	4.7

*These columns refer to the industry indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.* UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification  
**Continued next page.**

TABLE 3-1, continued

INDUSTRY	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*		EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS*	
		FROI %		FROI %
<b>ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b> (688 FROI)	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	128	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	127
	Floor of building	57	Overexertion in lifting	91
	Person--other than injured/ill worker, NEC	51	Bodily conditions, NEC	32
	Nonclassifiable	47	Overexertion, NEC	30
	Bodily conditions of injured, ill worker	34	Slip, trip, loss of balance-without fall	28
<b>GROCERY STORES</b> (680 FROI)	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	158	Overexertion in lifting	149
	Boxes, crates, cartons	111	Overexertion, unspecified	52
	Nonclassifiable	58	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	41
	Floor of building	35	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	40
	Other sources, NEC	32	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting	35
<b>DEPARTMENT STORES</b> (649 FROI)	Boxes, crates, cartons	104	Overexertion in lifting	142
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	75	Struck by falling object	47
	Nonclassifiable	47	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	46
	Other sources, NEC	40	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	35
	Floor of building	30	Overexertion, unspecified	35
<b>GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS</b> (643 FROI)	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	149	Overexertion in lifting	135
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	122	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	68
	Nonclassifiable	53	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	48
	Floor of building	35	Overexertion, unspecified	40
	Bodily conditions of injured, ill worker	26	Overexertion holding/carrying/turning/wielding object	29
<b>SHIP BUILDING AND REPAIRING</b> (618 FROI)	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	156	Overexertion in lifting	67
	Nonclassifiable	79	Nonclassifiable	51
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, UNS	38	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting	36
	Other sources, NEC	25	Repetitive use of tools	34
	Floor of building	24	Struck against stationary object	33

These columns refer to the industry indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease. UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification

Elementary and Secondary Schools (SIC 8211).

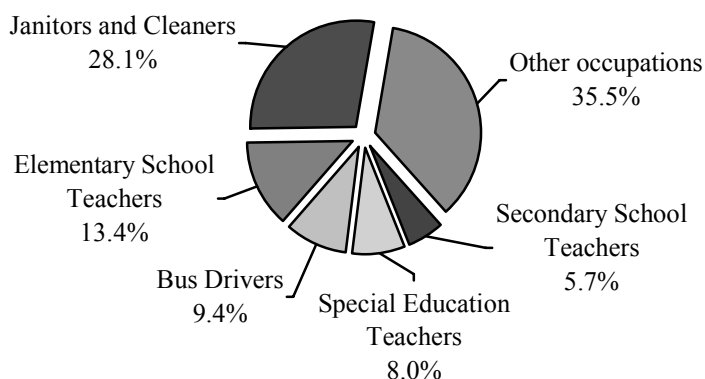
**TABLE 3-2: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses in Elementary and Secondary Schools**

<b>INDUSTRY</b>  <b>ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b> (688 FROI)	<b>OCCUPATION</b>	<b>FROI</b>	<b>%</b>
	Janitors and cleaners	193	28.2
	Elementary school teachers	92	13.4
	Bus drivers	65	9.5
	Special education teachers	55	8.0
	Secondary school teachers	39	5.7
	<b>NATURE</b>		
	Sprains, strains, tears	190	27.6
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	92	13.4
	Bruises, contusions	66	9.6
	Back pain, hurt back	65	9.4
	Traumatic injuries and disorders, unspecified	61	8.9
	<b>PART OF BODY</b>		
	Multiple body parts	99	14.4
	Lumbar region	90	13.1
	Body Systems	56	8.1
	Knee(s)	54	7.8
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified	39	5.7
	<b>SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>		
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	128	18.6
	Floor of building	57	8.3
	Person--other than injured/ill worker, not elsewhere classifiable	51	7.4
	Nonclassifiable	47	6.8
	Bodily conditions of injured, ill worker	34	4.9
	<b>EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>		
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	127	18.5
	Overexertion in lifting	91	13.2
	Bodily conditions, not elsewhere classifiable	32	4.7
	Overexertion, not elsewhere classifiable	30	4.4
	Slip, trip, loss of balance-without fall	28	4.1

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease

Figure 3-1 presents the five occupations reporting the highest frequency of 2003 first reports within the elementary and secondary schools industry (SIC 8211).

**FIGURE 3-1: Occupations - Elementary and Secondary Schools  
(688 First Reports)**



As can be seen in Figure 3-1, the highest proportion of first reports was for janitors and cleaners. As to how workers were injured, Table 3-2 shows that the number one source of injury or illness for all workers in schools was bodily motion/position of injured worker and the top reported event was a fall to the floor, walkway or other surface. The most often reported body part for all workers was multiple body parts. These data indicate a need for further research into the sources of injury for janitors and cleaners specifically.

**Grocery Stores (SIC 5411)**

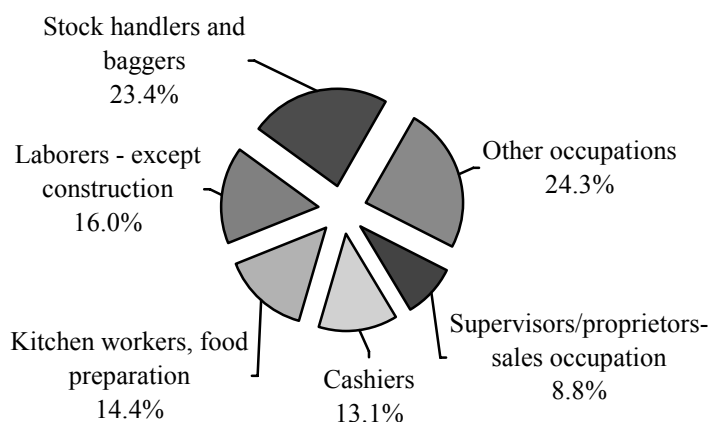
**TABLE 3-3: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses in Grocery Stores**

<b>INDUSTRY</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>		FROI	%
	Stock handlers and baggers		159	23.4
	Laborers, except construction		109	16.1
	Kitchen workers, food preparation		98	14.4
	Cashiers		89	13.1
	Supervisors/proprietors-sales occupation		60	8.8
	<b>NATURE</b>			
	Sprains, strains, tears		228	33.5
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		123	18.1
	Back pain, hurt back		60	8.8
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified		48	7.1
	Cuts, lacerations		48	7.1
<b>GROCERY STORES</b> (680 FROI)	<b>PART OF BODY</b>			
	Lumbar region		96	14.1
	Multiple body parts		69	10.1
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		58	8.5
	Finger(s), fingernail(s)		57	8.3
	Knee(s)		48	7.1
	<b>SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>			
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker		158	23.2
	Boxes, crates, cartons		111	16.3
	Nonclassifiable		58	8.5
	Floor of building		35	5.1
	Other sources, NEC		32	4.7
	<b>EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>			
	Overexertion in lifting		149	21.9
	Overexertion, unspecified		52	7.6
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface		41	6.0
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects		40	5.9
	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting		35	5.1

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease

The top five occupations, in terms of first reports made in 2003, for the grocery stores industry (SIC 5411) are shown in Figure 3-3.

**FIGURE 3-2: Occupations - Grocery Stores (680 First Reports)**



Stock handlers and baggers accounted for nearly one quarter of the first reports in this industry as shown in Figure 3-2. Bodily motion/position of injured worker was the first ranked source of injury or illness for all workers. As to event, overexertion in general totaled 35.4% of reported injuries and illnesses. The number one part of body affected was lumbar region for all workers in this industry, as seen in Table 3-3.

Department Stores (SIC 5311).

TABLE 3-4: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses in Department Stores

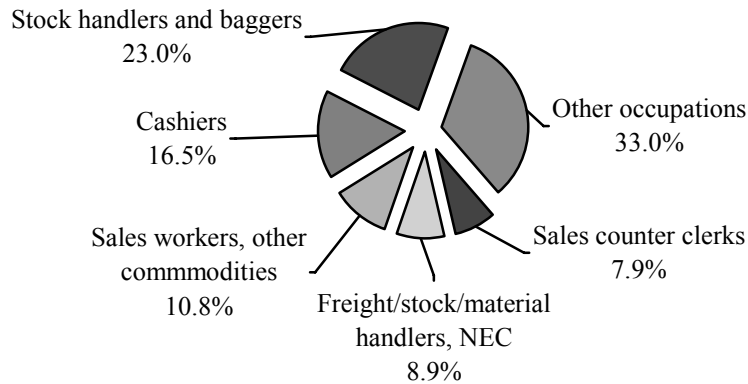
INDUSTRY  DEPARTMENT STORES (649 FROI)	OCCUPATION	FROI	%
	Stock handlers and baggers	149	23.0
	Cashiers	107	16.5
	Sales workers, other commodities	70	10.8
	Freight/stock/material handlers, not elsewhere classifiable	58	8.9
	Sales counter clerks	51	7.9
PART OF BODY	NATURE		
	Sprains, strains, tears	322	49.6
	Bruises, contusions	106	16.3
	Cuts, lacerations	56	8.6
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	27	4.2
	Back pain, hurt back	15	2.3
SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS	EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified	88	13.6
	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	59	9.1
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	49	7.6
	Lumbar region	49	7.6
	Wrist(s)	37	5.7
EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Boxes, crates, cartons	104	16.0
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	75	11.6
	Nonclassifiable	47	7.2
	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	40	6.2
	Floor of building	30	4.6
EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS	EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Overexertion in lifting	142	21.9
	Struck by falling object	47	7.2
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	46	7.1
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	35	5.4
	Overexertion, unspecified	35	5.4

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury and Disease



Figure 3-3 below shows the five occupations with the greatest number of first reports in the department stores industry (SIC 5311) for 2003.

**FIGURE 3-3: Occupations - Department Stores  
(649 First Reports)**



As pointed out earlier, the total first reports for this industry more than doubled from 2002 to 2003, from 288 first reports to 649. This is a significant change. In terms of occupations within this industry, as diagrammed in Figure 3-3, stock handlers and baggers ranked first. Boxes, crates, cartons was the most commonly reported source of injury or illness for all workers in this industry in Table 3-4. Overexertion in lifting ranked first among the events contributing to the frequency of first reports and overexertion in general accounted for 34.4% of first reports from department stores. The back was the body part affected in the highest frequency of first reports.

**General Medical and Surgical Hospitals (SIC 8062).**

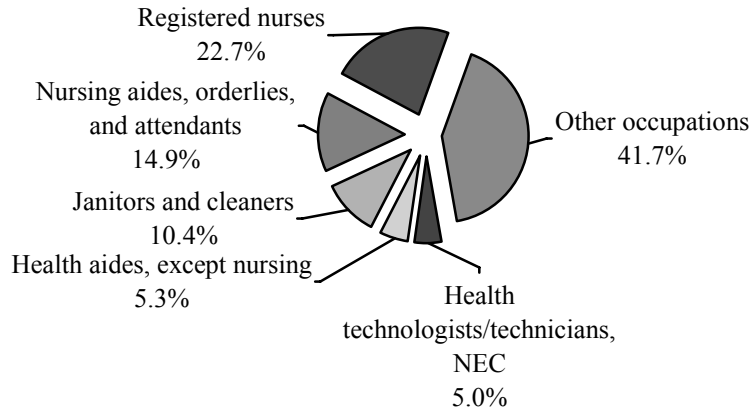
**TABLE 3-5: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses in General Medical and Surgical Hospitals**

INDUSTRY	OCCUPATION		FROI	%
	Registered nurses		146	22.8
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		96	15.0
	Janitors and cleaners		67	10.5
	Health aides, except nursing		34	5.3
	Health technologists/technicians, not elsewhere classifiable		32	5.0
GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS (643 FROI)	NATURE			
	Sprains, strains, tears		338	52.6
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		62	9.6
	Bruises, contusions		44	6.8
	Back pain, hurt back		27	4.2
	Neurotic reaction to stress		21	3.3
GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS (643 FROI)	PART OF BODY			
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified		137	21.3
	Lumbar region		69	10.7
	Knee(s)		60	9.3
	Multiple body parts		50	7.8
	Body systems		44	6.8
GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS (643 FROI)	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility		149	23.2
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker		122	19.0
	Nonclassifiable		53	8.2
	Floor of building		35	5.4
	Bodily conditions of injured, ill worker		26	4.0
GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS (643 FROI)	EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Overexertion in lifting		135	21.0
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface		68	10.6
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects		48	7.5
	Overexertion, unspecified		40	6.2
	Overexertion holding/carrying/turning/wielding object		29	4.5

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury and Disease

Figure 3-4 below shows the five occupations with the greatest number of first reports in the general medical and surgical hospital industry (SIC 8062) for 2003.

**FIGURE 3-4: Occupations - General Medical and Surgical Hospitals  
(643 First Reports)**



In terms of occupation, registered nurses ranked first and, when taken together with nursing aides, orderlies and attendants, accounted for 37.6% of first reports in this industry according to Figure 3-4. Table 3-5 shows that the top source of injury or illness for all hospital workers was the health care patient/resident of health care facility. Four of the top five entries under event involved overexertion with overexertion in lifting ranked first. The back was the body part involved in the most first reports for all workers in this industry and the back, including the lumbar region, accounted for 32% of first reports.

**Ship Building and Repairing (SIC 3731)**

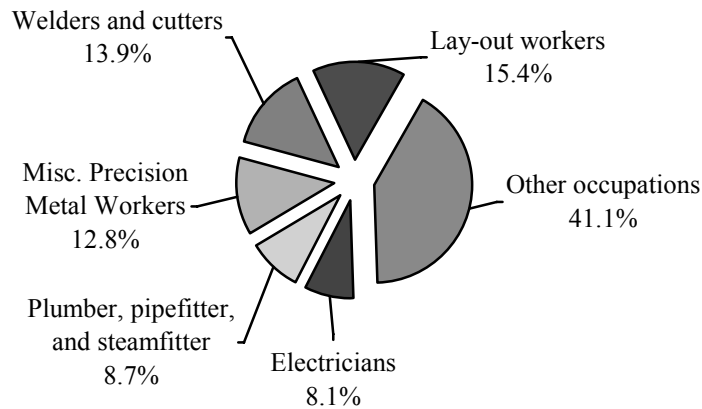
**TABLE 3-6: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses in Ship Building and Repairing**

<b>INDUSTRY</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>		FROI	%
	Lay-out workers		95	15.4
	Welders and cutters		86	13.9
	Miscellaneous precision metal workers		79	12.8
	Plumber, pipefitter, and steamfitter		54	8.7
	Electricians		50	8.1
<b>SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIRING (618 FROI)</b>	<b>NATURE</b>		FROI	%
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		173	28.0
	Sprains, strains, tears		130	21.0
	Back pain, hurt back		72	11.7
	Bruises, contusions		30	4.9
	Symptoms involuntary nervous/musculoskeletal system, NEC		30	4.9
<b>SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIRING (618 FROI)</b>	<b>PART OF BODY</b>		FROI	%
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified		103	16.7
	Knee(s)		81	13.1
	Multiple body parts		65	10.5
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		43	7.0
	Eye(s)		29	4.7
<b>SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIRING (618 FROI)</b>	<b>SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>		FROI	%
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker		156	25.2
	Nonclassifiable		79	12.8
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified		38	6.1
	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable		25	4.0
	Floor of building		24	3.9
<b>SHIPBUILDING AND REPAIRING (618 FROI)</b>	<b>EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>		FROI	%
	Overexertion in lifting		67	10.8
	Nonclassifiable		51	8.3
	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting		36	5.8
	Repetitive use of tools		34	5.5
	Struck against stationary object		33	5.3

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury of Disease

Figure 3-5 shows the five occupations with the highest counts of first reports within the ship building and repairing industry (SIC 3731) in the year 2003.

**FIGURE 3-5: Occupations - Ship Building and Repairing  
(618 First Reports)**



In terms of occupations within this industry, as diagrammed in Figure 3-5, lay-out workers ranked first, but other occupations contributed significantly to the total 2003 first reports for this industry. Bodily motion/position of injured worker was the most commonly reported source of injury or illness for all workers in this industry in Table 3-6. While overexertion in lifting ranked first among the classifiable, a wide variety of events contributed to the frequency of first reports. The back was the body part producing the highest frequency of first reports among workers in shipyards. Of note, the leading nature of injury for this industry, nonback soreness, pain, or hurt, showed a 36% increase in first reports from 2002, from 127 to 173 first reports.

## **SECTION 4: THE TOP FIVE OCCUPATIONS**

### **Overview**

This section presents information on the five occupations with the highest reported frequencies of first reports for 2003. Table 4-1 below lists the top five occupations in descending order by frequency of first reports. Together, these five occupations accounted for 23.7% of all first reports for 2003. Truck drivers fell in first place, followed by nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants in second place.

For each occupation, the top five each of nature of the injury or illness, event of the injury or illness, source of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the first reports frequency and percentage for that occupation. Age of the injured worker and length of service of the injured worker are both broken down into five inclusive categories and these categories are ranked by the frequency of first reports for each. Again, **the tabulated characteristics refer to the occupation as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics**. For example, the 14.0% of event (overexertion in lifting) in the first row of the third column of Table 4-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported as sprains, strains, and tears only but ALL natures within truck drivers, including those not listed.

While there were differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between these top five occupations, a number of elements were shared in common.

- For all occupations, the top ranking length-of-service group was employees with less than one year of experience. This group averaged 40.2% of first reports.
- Sprains, strains, and tears was the number one reported nature for all top five occupations, averaging 37.4%. Soreness, pain, hurt, except for back ranked second or third for all occupations at an average proportion of 14.7%.
- Under part, lumbar region ranked first for all top five occupations, and back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified was also common to all. Combined, these two, or the back in general, averaged 25.8% of first reports.
- Overexertion in lifting ranked first in the event column for all of the top five occupations at an average proportion of 21.9% of first reports. A variety of events classified as “overexertion” accounted for between 22.8% and 49.0% of each of the top five occupations’ first reports. Fall to floor, walkway, or other surface ranked second or third in all five occupations, averaging 9.0%.
- Bodily motion/position of injured worker ranked first or second under source of injury or illness for all five occupations, averaging 13.2%.

**TABLE 4-1: Cross Tabulations of the Top Five Occupations and the Characteristics of Injuries Within These Occupations**

<b>OCCUPATION</b>	<b>NATURE*</b>	<b>FROI</b> %	<b>EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS*</b>	<b>FROI</b> %	<b>SOURCE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS*</b>	<b>FROI</b> %
<b>TRUCK DRIVERS</b> (902 FROI)	Sprains, strains, tears	320 35.5	Overexertion in lifting	126 14.0	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	125 13.9
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	132 14.6	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	112 12.4	Ground	95 10.5
	Back pain, hurt back	83 9.2	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	79 8.8	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	72 8.0
	Fractures	71 7.9	Fall from nonmoving vehicle	61 6.8	Nonclassifiable	51 5.7
	Bruises, contusions	70 7.8	Slip, trip, loss of balance – without fall	40 4.4	Semi trailer/ tractor trailer / trailer truck	46 5.1
<b>NURSES AIDES, ORDERLIES, AND ATTENDANTS</b> (877 FROI)	Sprains, strains, tears	368 42.0	Overexertion in lifting	253 28.8	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	446 50.9
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	131 14.9	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	78 8.9	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	89 10.1
	Back pain, hurt back	106 12.1	Overexertion holding/carrying/turning/wielding obj	77 8.8	Nonclassifiable	66 7.5
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	70 8.0	Overexertion, unspecified	56 6.4	Floor of building	45 5.1
	Bruises, contusions	51 5.8	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	44 5.0	Infectious and parasitic agents, NEC	18 2.1
<b>LABORERS, EXCEPT CONSTRUCTION</b> (805 FROI)	Sprains, strains, tears	246 30.6	Overexertion in lifting	167 20.7	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	107 13.3
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	146 18.1	Overexertion, unspecified	61 7.6	Nonclassifiable	85 10.6
	Back pain, hurt back	90 11.2	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	57 7.1	Boxes, crates, cartons	70 8.7
	Bruises, contusions	56 7.0	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	55 6.8	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	28 3.5
	Fractures	38 4.7	Nonclassifiable	43 5.3	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	27 3.4
<b>JANITORS AND CLEANERS</b> (595 FROI)	Sprains, strains, tears	214 36.0	Overexertion in lifting	129 21.7	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	95 16.0
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	102 17.1	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	62 10.4	Nonclassifiable	45 7.6
	Back pain, hurt back	78 13.1	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	49 8.2	Bags, sacks, totes	32 5.4
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	35 5.9	Overexertion, unspecified	41 6.9	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	28 4.7
	Bruises, contusions	31 5.2	Overexertion holding/carrying/turning/wielding obj	29 4.9	Floor of building	28 4.7
<b>STOCK HANDLERS AND BAGGERS</b> (382 FROI)	Sprains, strains, tears	164 42.9	Overexertion in lifting	93 24.3	Boxes, crates, cartons	63 16.5
	Bruises, contusions	44 11.5	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	42 11.0	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	49 12.8
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	34 8.9	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	24 6.3	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	31 8.1
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	27 7.1	Struck by object, not elsewhere classifiable	21 5.5	Cart, dolly, handtruck	30 7.9
	Cuts, lacerations	25 6.5	Struck by falling object	17 4.5	Floor of building	24 6.3

*\*These columns refer to the occupation indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease. UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification. Continued next page.*

TABLE 4-1, continued

OCCUPATION	PART OF BODY*	FROI	%	AGE OF INJURED WORKER*	FROI	%	LENGTH OF SERVICE *	FROI	%
<b>TRUCK DRIVERS</b> (902 FROI)	Lumbar region	139	15.4	35-44	300	33.3	Under 1 year	311	35.6
	Multiple body parts	119	13.2	45-54	221	24.5	5-14 years	194	22.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	77	8.5	25-34	190	21.1	2-4 years	192	22.0
	Knee(s)	69	7.6	55 and older	143	15.9	1 year to 2 years	113	12.9
	Ankle(s)	68	7.5	Under 25	48	5.3	15 years and above	63	7.2
<b>NURSES AIDES, ORDERLIES, AND ATTENDANTS</b> (877 FROI)	Lumbar region	156	17.8	25-34	231	26.3	Under 1 year	362	43.2
	Multiple body parts	123	14.0	35-44	215	24.5	2-4 years	152	18.1
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	112	12.8	45-54	187	21.3	1 year to 2 years	147	17.5
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	70	8.0	Under 25	149	17.0	5-14 years	134	16.0
	Knee(s)	56	6.4	55 and older	95	10.8	15 years and above	43	5.1
<b>LABORERS, EXCEPT CONSTRUCTION</b> (805 FROI)	Lumbar region	103	12.8	Under 25	221	27.5	Under 1 year	401	51.3
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	83	10.3	25-34	212	26.3	5-14 years	127	16.2
	Multiple body parts	68	8.4	35-44	198	24.6	2-4 years	121	15.5
	Knee(s)	65	8.1	45-54	118	14.7	1 year to 2 years	97	12.4
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	54	6.7	55 and older	56	7.0	15 years and above	36	4.6
<b>JANITORS AND CLEANERS</b> (595 FROI)	Lumbar region	81	13.7	45-54	181	30.4	Under 1 year	148	26.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	75	13.4	35-44	155	26.1	5-14 years	122	21.6
	Multiple body parts	56	8.6	55 and older	145	24.4	2-4 years	120	21.2
	Knee(s)	54	8.3	25-34	80	13.4	15 years and above	91	16.1
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	44	7.4	Under 25	34	5.7	1 year to 2 years	84	14.9
<b>STOCK HANDLERS AND BAGGERS</b> (382 FROI)	Lumbar region	57	14.9	Under 25	109	28.5	Under 1 year	168	44.8
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	36	9.4	35-44	83	21.7	2-4 years	72	19.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	36	9.4	25-34	81	21.2	5-14 years	63	16.8
	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	29	7.6	45-54	56	14.7	1 year to 2 years	48	12.8
	Ankle(s)	24	6.3	55 and older	53	13.9	15 years and above	24	6.4

*These columns refer to the occupation indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease. UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification.*



## Truck Drivers

**TABLE 4-2: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses of Truck Drivers**

<b>OCCUPATION</b>	<b>NATURE</b>		FROI	%
	Sprains, strains, tears		320	35.5
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		132	14.6
	Back pain, hurt back		83	9.2
	Fractures		71	7.9
	Bruises, contusions		70	7.8
	<b>EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>			
	Overexertion in lifting		126	14.0
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface		112	12.4
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects		79	8.8
	Fall from nonmoving vehicle		61	6.8
	Slip, trip, loss of balance – without fall		40	4.4
	<b>SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>			
<b>TRUCK DRIVERS</b> (902 FROI)	Bodily motion/position of injured worker		125	13.9
	Ground		95	10.5
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified		72	8.0
	Nonclassifiable		51	5.7
	Semi trailer/ tractor trailer / trailer truck		46	5.1
	<b>PART OF BODY</b>			
	Lumbar region		139	15.4
	Multiple body parts		119	13.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS		77	8.5
	Knee(s)		69	7.6
	Ankle(s)		68	7.5

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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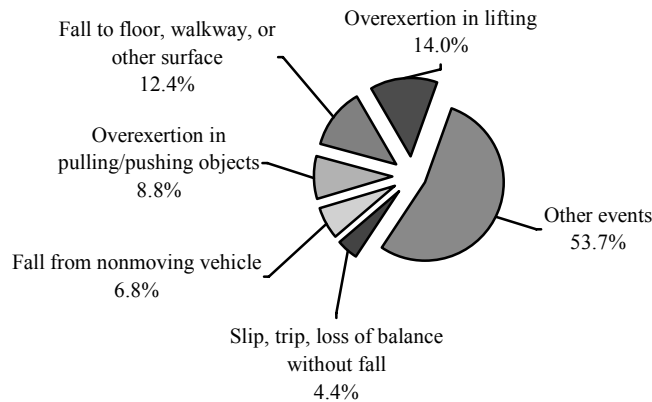
TABLE 4-2, continued

OCCUPATION	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
TRUCK DRIVERS (902 FROI)	35-44		300	33.3
	45-54		221	24.5
	25-34		190	21.1
	55 and older		143	15.9
	Under 25		48	5.3
	Under 1 year		311	35.6
	5-14 years		194	22.2
	2-4 years		192	22.0
	1 year to 2 years		113	12.9
	15 years and above		63	7.2

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

The top five events, in terms of first reports recorded in 2003, for the truck drivers occupation are shown in Figure 4-1.

FIGURE 4-1: Events - Truck Drivers (902 First Reports)



From Table 4-2, the top-ranked nature of injury or illness for truck drivers was sprains, strains, and tears. As seen in Figure 4-1, the number one event was overexertion in lifting, with overexertion in pulling/pushing objects also appearing (the two overexertion events totaled 22.8%). A variety of events produced first reports. The highest-ranking source was bodily motion/position of injured worker and the part of body involved in the most first reports was lumbar region. The age group most often involved in a First Report was 35-44 years and the top length-of-service category was under one year.

## Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants

**TABLE 4-3: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses of Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants.**

OCCUPATION	NATURE		FROI	%
	Sprains, strains, tears		368	42.0
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		131	14.9
	Back pain, hurt back		106	12.1
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS		70	8.0
	Bruises, contusions		51	5.8
NURSING AIDES, ORDERLIES, AND ATTENDANTS (877 FROI)	EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Overexertion in lifting		253	28.8
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface		78	8.9
	Overexertion holding/carrying/turning/wielding object		77	8.8
	Overexertion, unspecified		56	6.4
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects		44	5.0
	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility		446	50.9
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker		89	10.1
	Nonclassifiable		66	7.5
	Floor of building		45	5.1
	Infectious and parasitic agents, NEC		18	2.1
	PART OF BODY			
	Lumbar region		156	17.8
	Multiple body parts		123	14.0
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS		112	12.8
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		70	8.0
	Knee(s)		56	6.4

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease  
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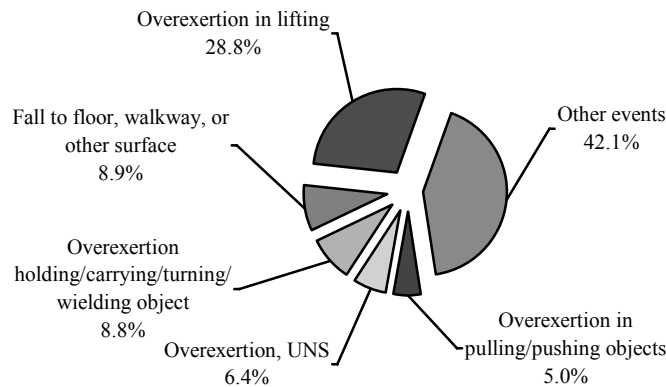
TABLE 4-3, continued

OCCUPATION	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
NURSING AIDES, ORDERLIES, AND ATTENDANTS (877 FROI)	25-34		231	26.3
	35-44		215	24.5
	45-54		187	21.3
	Under 25		149	17.0
	55 and older		95	10.8
	Under 1 year		362	43.2
	2-4 years		152	18.1
	1 year to 2 years		147	17.5
	5-14 years		134	16.0
	15 years and above		43	5.1

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 4-2 shows the five events contributing the most first reports within the nurses' aides, orderlies, and attendants occupation for 2003.

FIGURE 4-2: Events - Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants  
(877 First Reports)



From Table 4-3, the nature of injury or illness that produced the most first reports involving nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants was sprains, strains, and tears. The top event was overexertion in lifting as shown in Figure 4-2. Overexertion figured in four of the top five events, or at least 49% of reported cases and a 40% increase from 2002 (306 to 430 first reports). The top source of injury or illness was the health care patient/resident of health facility. The lumbar region ranked first as part of body affected, but with a 34% decrease in first reports from 2002. The top-ranked age group was 25-34 years and the highest-ranking length-of-service group was under one year.

Nonconstruction Laborers

TABLE 4-4: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses of Nonconstruction Laborers

OCCUPATION  LABORERS, EXCEPT CONSTRUCTION (805 FROI)	NATURE		FROI	%
	Sprains, strains, tears		246	30.6
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		146	18.1
	Back pain, hurt back		90	11.2
	Bruises, contusions		56	7.0
	Fractures		38	4.7
EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS				
	Overexertion in lifting		167	20.7
	Overexertion, unspecified		61	7.6
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface		57	7.1
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects		55	6.8
	Nonclassifiable		43	5.3
SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS				
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker		107	13.3
	Nonclassifiable		85	10.6
	Boxes, crates, cartons		70	8.7
	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable		28	3.5
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified		27	3.4
PART OF BODY				
	Lumbar region		103	12.8
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS		83	10.3
	Multiple body parts		68	8.4
	Knee(s)		65	8.1
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		54	6.7

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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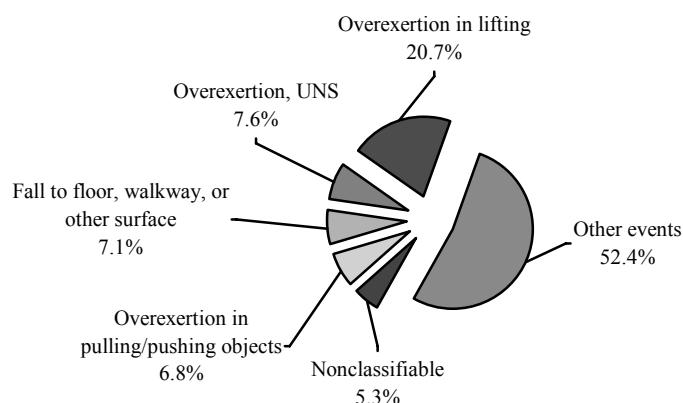
TABLE 4-4, continued

OCCUPATION	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
LABORERS, EXCEPT CONSTRUCTION (805 FROI)	Under 25		221	27.5
	25-34		212	26.3
	35-44		198	24.6
	45-54		118	14.7
	55 and older		56	7.0
	Under 1 year		401	51.3
	5-14 years		127	16.2
	2-4 years		121	15.5
	1 year to 2 years		97	12.4
	15 years and above		36	4.6

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 4-3 presents the five events reporting the highest frequency of 2003 first reports within the nonconstruction laborers occupation.

FIGURE 4-3: Events - Nonconstruction Laborers  
(805 First Reports)



According to Table 4-4, the most frequently reported nature of injury or illness for this occupation was sprains, strains, and tears. From Figure 4-3, the top event was overexertion in lifting and overexertion events were three of the top five, totaling 35.1%. The top source of injury was bodily motion/position of injured worker and the part of body most often reported was lumbar region. The age group generating the most first reports was under 25 years and the most frequently reported length-of-service category was less than one year.

**Janitors and Cleaners**

**TABLE 4-5: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses of Janitors and Cleaners**

OCCUPATION	NATURE		FROI	%
	Sprains, strains, tears		214	36.0
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		102	17.1
	Back pain, hurt back		78	13.1
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS		35	5.9
	Bruises, contusions		31	5.2
JANITORS AND CLEANERS (595 FROI)	EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Overexertion in lifting		129	21.7
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface		62	10.4
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects		49	8.2
	Overexertion, unspecified		41	6.9
	Overexertion holding/carrying/turning/wielding obj		29	4.9
	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker		95	16.0
	Nonclassifiable		45	7.6
	Bags, sacks, totes		32	5.4
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified		28	4.7
	Floor of building		28	4.7
	PART OF BODY			
	Lumbar region		81	13.7
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS		75	13.4
	Multiple body parts		56	8.6
	Knee(s)		54	8.3
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		44	7.4

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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TABLE 4-5, continued

OCCUPATION	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
JANITORS AND CLEANERS (595 FROI)	45-54		181	30.4
	35-44		155	26.1
	55 and older		145	24.4
	25-34		80	13.4
	Under 25		34	5.7
	Under 1 year		148	26.2
	5-14 years		122	21.6
	2-4 years		120	21.2
	15 years and above		91	16.1
	1 year to 2 years		84	14.9

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

In Figure 4-4, the top five events, in terms of first reports in 2003, for the janitors and cleaners occupation are shown.

FIGURE 4-4: Events - Janitors & Cleaners  
(595 First Reports)

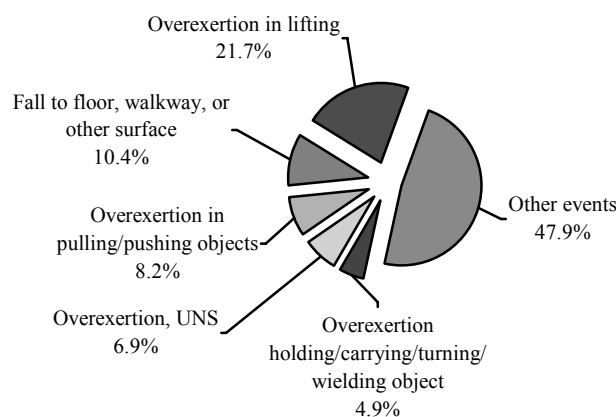


Table 4-5 shows sprains, strains, and tears as the leading nature of injury or illness. Figure 4-4 has overexertion in four event positions (41.7%) with overexertion in lifting the top event reported. The top source of injury or illness was bodily motion/position of injured worker. The lumbar region ranked first as part of body affected with the back a close second. The top-ranked age group was 45-54 years and the length-of-service group involved in the most first reports was under one year. Of note, first reports involving the 5-14 year length-of-service group declined 28%, from 169 in 2002 to 122. Almost 55% of first reports in this occupation involved workers of age 45 or older, a point that could bear further investigation.



**Stock Handlers and Baggers**

**TABLE 4-6: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses of Stock Handlers and Baggers**

OCCUPATION  STOCK HANDLERS AND BAGGERS  (382 FROI)	NATURE	FROI	%
	Sprains, strains, tears	164	42.9
	Bruises, contusions	44	11.5
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	34	8.9
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	27	7.1
	Cuts, lacerations	25	6.5
	EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Overexertion in lifting	93	24.3
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	42	11.0
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	24	6.3
	Struck by object, not elsewhere classifiable	21	5.5
	Struck by falling object	17	4.5
	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Boxes, crates, cartons	63	16.5
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	49	12.8
	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	31	8.1
	Cart, dolly, handtruck	30	7.9
	Floor of building	24	6.3
	PART OF BODY		
	Lumbar region	57	14.9
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	36	9.4
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	36	9.4
	Finger(s), fingernail(s)	29	7.6
	Ankle(s)	24	6.3

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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TABLE 4-6, continued

OCCUPATION	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
STOCK HANDLERS AND BAGGERS (382 FROI)	Under 25		109	28.5
	35-44		83	21.7
	25-34		81	21.2
	45-54		56	14.7
	55 and older		53	13.9
	Under 1 year		168	44.8
	2-4 years		72	19.2
	5-14 years		63	16.8
	1 year to 2 years		48	12.8
	15 years and above		24	6.4

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 4-5 shows the five events with the most reported first reports for the stock handlers and baggers occupation in 2003.

FIGURE 4-5: Events - Stock Handlers and Baggers (382 First Reports)

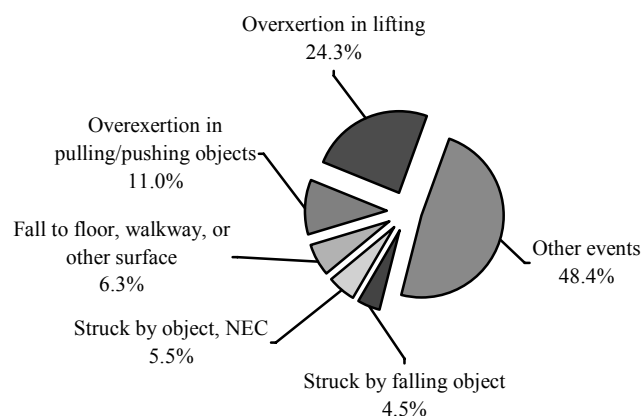


Table 4-6 shows that, for stock handlers and baggers, the most reported nature of injury or illness was sprains, strains, and tears. As to how workers were injured, Figure 4-5 shows that the number one event was overexertion in lifting, and the two overexertion events in the top five total 35.3%. The top reported source of injury or illness was boxes, crates, cartons and the most often reported body part for all workers was lumbar region. The top age group was under 25 years and the top length-of-service category was under one year.

## **SECTION 5: THE TOP FIVE NATURES OF INJURY OR ILLNESS**

### **Overview**

This section presents information on the five natures of injury or illness reported in the highest numbers of first reports for 2003. Table 5-1 below lists the top five natures in descending order. Together, these five natures accounted for 67.9% of all first reports for 2003. Sprains, strains, and tears was the number one reported nature, accounting for 30.7%. It was followed by nonback soreness, pain, or hurt, and then by back pain or hurt back, all musculoskeletal categories.

For each nature, the top five each of occupation of the injured worker, event of the injury or illness, source of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the First Report frequency and percentage for that nature. Age of the injured worker and length of service of the injured worker are both broken down into five inclusive categories and these categories are ranked by the frequency of first reports for each. Again, **the tabulated characteristics refer to the nature as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics.** For example, the 28.3% of event (overexertion in lifting) in the first row of the third column of Table 5-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported by nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants but by ALL occupations within sprains, strains, and tears, including those occupations not listed.

While there were differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between these top five natures, a number of elements were shared in common.

- For these top five natures, an average of 34.7% of first reports involved employees with a length of service of less than 1 year.
- Under the age of the injured worker, the 35-44 group ranked first for each of the top five natures, averaging 27.5%.
- Except for the bruises, contusions nature of injury or illness, overexertion in lifting ranked first or second in the event column and events classified as “overexertion” accounted for an average of 33.6% of each of the non-bruise natures’ first reports.
- As to source of injury or illness, bodily motion/position of injured worker ranked first in the four natures other than bruises, contusions, averaging 22.2% of first reports.
- Three occupations were affected by all five natures. Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants averaged 6.9% of first reports per nature. Nonconstruction laborers; and truck drivers were the other occupations in common

**TABLE 5-1: Cross Tabulations of the Top Five Natures and the Characteristics of Injuries for Each Nature.**

NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS	OCCUPATION*		EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS*		SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS	
	FROI	%	FROI	%	FROI	%
<b>SPRAINS, STRAINS, TEARS</b> (4,624 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	368 8.0	Overexertion in lifting	1,310 28.3	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	1,113 24.1
	Truck drivers	320 6.9	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	456 9.9	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	384 8.3
	Laborers, except construction	246 5.3	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	345 7.5	Boxes, crates, cartons	298 6.4
	Janitors and cleaners	214 4.6	Overexertion, unspecified	318 6.9	Nonclassifiable	287 6.2
	Stock handlers and baggers	164 3.6	Slip, trip, loss of balance - without fall	306 6.6	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	162 3.5
<b>SORENESS, PAIN, HURT, EXCEPT THE BACK</b> (2,362 FROI)	Laborers, except construction	146 6.2	Overexertion in lifting	258 10.9	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	709 30.0
	Truck drivers	132 5.6	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	234 9.9	Nonclassifiable	320 13.5
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	131 5.6	Nonclassifiable	201 8.5	Floor of building	118 5.0
	Janitors and cleaners	102 4.3	Overexertion, unspecified	164 6.9	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	107 4.5
	Carpenters	54 2.3	Repetitive motion, unspecified	149 6.3	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	105 4.4
<b>BACK PAIN, HURT BACK</b> (1,352 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	106 7.9	Overexertion in lifting	451 33.4	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	247 18.3
	Laborers, except construction	90 6.7	Overexertion, unspecified	123 9.1	Nonclassifiable	156 11.5
	Truck drivers	83 6.2	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting	110 8.1	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	105 7.8
	Janitors and cleaners	78 5.8	Overexertion holding/carrying/turning/wielding obj	100 7.4	Boxes, crates, cartons	88 6.5
	Carpenters	40 3.0	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	91 6.7	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	56 4.1
<b>BRUISES, CONTUSIONS</b> (1,045 FROI)	Truck drivers	70 6.7	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	252 24.1	Floor of building	121 11.6
	Laborers, except construction	56 5.4	Struck by falling object	110 10.5	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	91 8.7
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	51 4.9	Struck by object, not elsewhere classifiable	94 9.0	Ground	77 7.4
	Stock handlers and baggers	44 4.2	Struck against stationary object	88 8.4	Boxes, crates, cartons	43 4.1
	Cashiers	32 3.1	Fall onto or against objects	46 4.4	Parking lots	36 3.4
<b>TRAUMATIC INJURIES AND DISORDERS, UNS</b> (841 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	70 8.3	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	132 15.7	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	139 16.5
	Truck drivers	56 6.7	Overexertion in lifting	87 10.3	Floor of building	68 8.1
	Laborers, except construction	36 4.3	Nonclassifiable	49 5.8	Nonclassifiable	68 8.1
	Janitors and cleaners	35 4.2	Overexertion, unspecified	37 4.4	Ground	61 7.3
	Stock handlers and baggers	27 3.2	Slip, trip, loss of balance - without fall	31 3.7	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	47 5.6

\* These columns refer to the nature indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.** UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification. **Continued next page.**

TABLE 5-1, continued

NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS	PART OF BODY*	FROI	%	AGE OF INJURED WORKER*	FROI	%	LENGTH OF SERVICE *	FROI	%
<b>SPRAINS, STRAINS, TEARS</b> (4,624 FROI)	Lumbar region	1,052	22.8	35-44	1,341	29.0	Under 1 year	1,534	34.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	591	12.8	45-54	1,043	22.6	5-14 years	947	21.1
	Knee(s)	467	10.1	25-34	1,034	22.4	2-4 years	841	18.8
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	466	10.1	Under 25	688	14.9	1 year to 2 years	614	13.7
	Ankle(s)	412	8.9	55 and older	518	11.2	15 years and above	547	12.2
<b>SORENESS, PAIN, HURT, EXCEPT THE BACK</b> (2,362 FROI)	Multiple body parts	522	22.0	35-44	651	27.6	Under 1 year	752	32.3
	Knee(s)	337	14.3	45-54	634	26.8	5-14 years	555	23.8
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	310	13.1	25-34	463	19.6	2-4 years	429	18.4
	Wrist(s)	139	5.9	55 and older	357	15.1	15 years and above	322	13.8
	Chest, exc internal loen of disease/disorder	82	3.5	Under 25	257	10.9	1 year to 2 years	270	11.6
<b>BACK PAIN, HURT BACK</b> (1,352 FROI)	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	687	50.8	35-44	403	29.8	Under 1 year	489	36.8
	Lumbar region	546	40.4	25-34	322	23.8	5-14 years	260	19.5
	Multiple back regions	49	3.6	45-54	313	23.2	2-4 years	250	18.8
	Thoracic region	44	3.3	Under 25	190	14.1	1 year to 2 years	180	13.5
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, NEC	13	1.0	55 and older	124	9.2	15 years and above	151	11.4
<b>BRUISES, CONTUSIONS</b> (1,045 FROI)	Multiple body parts	178	17.0	35-44	250	23.9	Under 1 year	394	38.6
	Knee(s)	128	12.2	25-34	234	22.4	2-4 years	201	19.7
	Foot(foot), except toe(s), unspecified	75	7.2	45-54	226	21.6	5-14 years	194	19.0
	Hand(s), except finger(s)	64	6.1	Under 25	177	16.9	1 year to 2 years	128	12.5
	Chest, exc internal loen of disease/disorder	51	4.9	55 and older	158	15.1	15 years and above	105	10.3
<b>TRAUMATIC INJURIES AND DISORDERS, UNS</b> (841 FROI)	Multiple body parts	163	19.4	35-44	228	27.1	Under 1 year	254	31.8
	Lumbar region	89	10.6	45-54	187	22.2	2-4 years	177	22.2
	Knee(s)	89	10.6	25-34	171	20.3	5-14 years	143	17.9
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	58	6.9	55 and older	131	15.6	1 year to 2 years	118	14.8
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	48	5.7	Under 25	124	14.7	15 years and above	107	13.4

*These columns refer to the nature indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease. UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable insufficient data for classification.*

## Sprains, Strains, and Tears

**TABLE 5-2: Characteristics of Sprains, Strains, and Tears**

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS  SPRAINS, STRAINS, TEARS  (4,624 FROI)	OCCUPATION	FROI	%
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	368	8.0
	Truck drivers	320	6.9
	Laborers, except construction	246	5.3
	Janitors and cleaners	214	4.6
	Stock handlers and baggers	164	3.6
EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS	Overexertion in lifting	1,310	28.3
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	456	9.9
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	345	7.5
	Overexertion, unspecified	318	6.9
	Slip, trip, loss of balance - without fall	306	6.6
SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	1,113	24.1
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	384	8.3
	Boxes, crates, cartons	298	6.4
	Nonclassifiable	287	6.2
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	162	3.5
PART OF BODY	Lumbar region	1,052	22.8
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	591	12.8
	Knee(s)	467	10.1
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	466	10.1
	Ankle(s)	412	8.9

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease  
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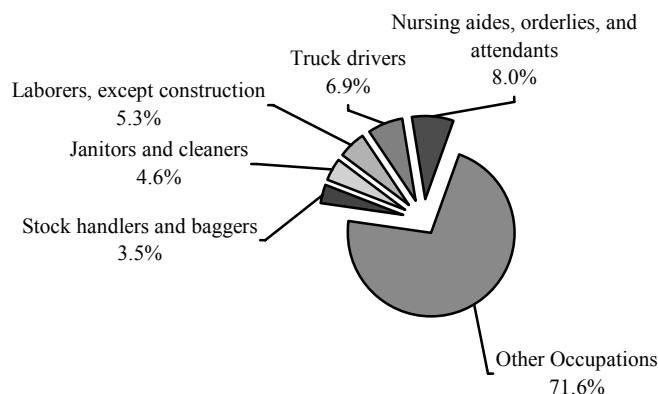
TABLE 5-2, continued

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
SPRAINS, STRAINS, TEARS (4,624 FROI)	35-44		1,341	29.0
	45-54		1,043	22.6
	25-34		1,034	22.4
	Under 25		688	14.9
	55 and older		518	11.2
	Under 1 year		1,534	34.2
	5-14 years		947	21.1
	2-4 years		841	18.8
	1 year to 2 years		614	13.7
	15 years and above		547	12.2

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 5-1 shows the five occupations with the most first reports for the sprains, strains, and tears nature for 2003.

FIGURE 5-1: Occupations - Sprains, Strains, and Tears  
(4,624 First Reports)



As shown in Figure 5-1, the occupation most often affected by sprains, strains, and tears in 2003 was nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants. In Table 5-2, the top source of sprains, strains, and tears was bodily motion/position of injured worker and the top event was overexertion in lifting. The part of body affected in the most 2003 first reports involving sprains, strains, and tears was the lumbar region. The top-ranked age group was 35-44 years and the length-of-service category in the most first reports was under one year.

Nonback soreness, pain or hurt

TABLE 5-3: Characteristics of Nonback soreness, pain or hurt

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS  SORENESS, PAIN, HURT, EXCEPT THE BACK (2,362 FROI)	OCCUPATION	FROI	%
	Laborers, except construction	146	6.2
	Truck drivers	132	5.6
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	131	5.6
	Janitors and cleaners	102	4.3
	Carpenters	54	2.3
EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS	Overexertion in lifting	258	10.9
	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	234	9.9
	Nonclassifiable	201	8.5
	Overexertion, unspecified	164	6.9
	Repetitive motion, unspecified	149	6.3
SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	709	30.0
	Nonclassifiable	320	13.5
	Floor of building	118	5.0
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	107	4.5
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	105	4.4
PART OF BODY	Multiple body parts	522	22.0
	Knee(s)	337	14.3
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	310	13.1
	Wrist(s)	139	5.9
	Chest, except internal location of disease/disorder	82	3.5

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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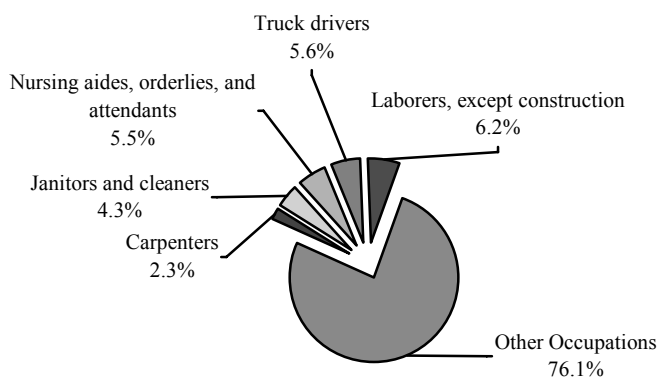
TABLE 5-3, continued

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
SORENESS, PAIN, HURT, EXCEPT THE BACK (2,362 FROI)	35-44		651	27.6
	45-54		634	26.8
	25-34		463	19.6
	55 and older		357	15.1
	Under 25		257	10.9
	Under 1 year		752	32.3
	5-14 years		555	23.8
	2-4 years		429	18.4
	15 years and above		322	13.8
	1 year to 2 years		270	11.6

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

The top five occupations, in terms of first reports in 2003, for the nonback soreness, pain or hurt nature of injury or illness are shown in Figure 5-2.

FIGURE 5-2: Occupations - Nonback Soreness, Pain, or Hurt  
(2,362 First Reports)



As shown in Figure 5-2, other occupations contributed many 2003 first reports of this nature although nonconstruction laborers was the top occupation. From Table 5-3, the number one source of injury or illness was bodily motion/position of injured worker and the highest-ranking event was overexertion in lifting. The part of body most affected was multiple body parts. The age group most often involved in a report was 35-44 years and the length-of-service category most often reported was less than one year.

## Back Pain or Hurt Back

**TABLE 5-4: Characteristics of Back Pain or Hurt Back**

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS  BACK PAIN, HURT BACK  (1,352 FROI)	OCCUPATION	FROI	%
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	106	7.9
	Laborers, except construction	90	6.7
	Truck drivers	83	6.2
	Janitors and cleaners	78	5.8
	Carpenters	40	3.0
	EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Overexertion in lifting	451	33.4
	Overexertion, unspecified	123	9.1
	Bending/climbing/crawling/reaching/twisting	110	8.1
	Overexertion holding/carrying/turning/wielding obj	100	7.4
	Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	91	6.7
	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	247	18.3
	Nonclassifiable	156	11.5
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	105	7.8
	Boxes, crates, cartons	88	6.5
	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	56	4.1
	PART OF BODY		
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	687	50.8
	Lumbar region	546	40.4
	Multiple back regions	49	3.6
	Thoracic region	44	3.3
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, NEC	13	1.0

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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TABLE 5-4, continued

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
<b>BACK PAIN, HURT BACK</b> (1,352 FROI)	35-44		403	29.8
	25-34		322	23.8
	45-54		313	23.2
	Under 25		190	14.1
	55 and older		124	9.2
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
	Under 1 year		489	36.8
	5-14 years		260	19.5
	2-4 years		250	18.8
	1 year to 2 years		180	13.5
	15 years and above		151	11.4

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 5-3 presents the five occupations reporting the highest frequency of 2003 first reports within the back pain or hurt back nature.

FIGURE 5-3: Occupations - Back Pain or Hurt Back  
(1,352 First Reports)

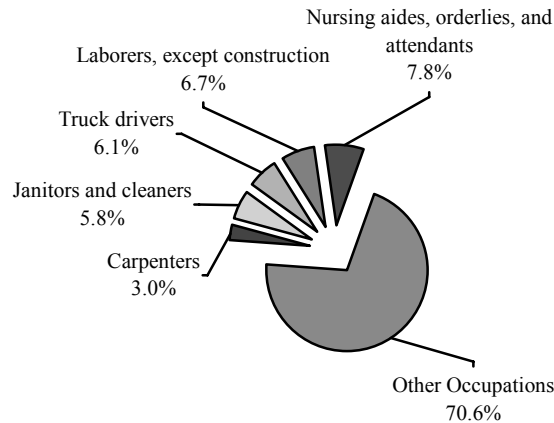


Figure 5-3 shows that the occupation involved in the most first reports involving back pain or hurt back was nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants. According to Table 5-4, the top source of injury or illness was bodily motion/position of injured worker and the top event was overexertion in lifting. The part of body affected most often reported was back, as might be expected. The age group generating the most reports was 35-44 years and the length-of-service category was under one year.

## Bruises, Contusions

**TABLE 5-5: Characteristics of Bruises, Contusions**

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS  BRUISES, CONTUSIONS  (1,045 FROI)	OCCUPATION	FROI	%
	Truck drivers	70	6.7
	Laborers, except construction	56	5.4
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	51	4.9
	Stock handlers and baggers	44	4.2
	Cashiers	32	3.1
EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	252	24.1
	Struck by falling object	110	10.5
	Struck by object, not elsewhere classifiable	94	9.0
	Struck against stationary object	88	8.4
	Fall onto or against objects	46	4.4
SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS	Floor of building	121	11.6
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	91	8.7
	Ground	77	7.4
	Boxes, crates, cartons	43	4.1
	Parking lots	36	3.4
PART OF BODY	Multiple body parts	178	17.0
	Knee(s)	128	12.2
	Foot(feet), except toe(s), unspecified	75	7.2
	Hand(s), except finger(s)	64	6.1
	Chest, exc internal locn of disease/disorder	51	4.9

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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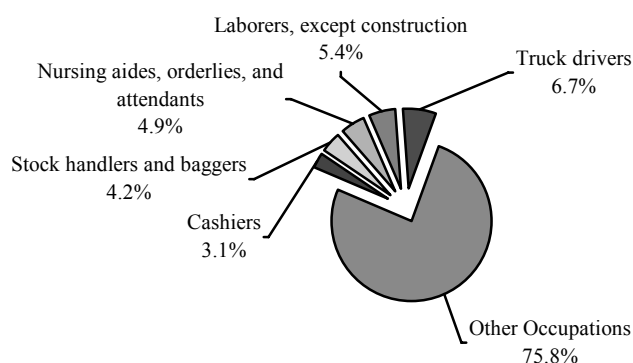
TABLE 5-5, continued

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
<b>BRUISES, CONTUSIONS</b> (1,045 FROI)	35-44		250	23.9
	25-34		234	22.4
	45-54		226	21.6
	Under 25		177	16.9
	55 and older		158	15.1
	<b>LENGTH OF SERVICE</b>			
	Under 1 year		394	38.6
	2-4 years		201	19.7
	5-14 years		194	19.0
	1 year to 2 years		128	12.5
	15 years and above		105	10.3

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

In Figure 5-4, the top five occupations, in terms of first reports recorded in 2003, for the bruises, contusions nature are shown.

FIGURE 5-4: Occupations - Bruises, Contusions (1,045 First Reports)



The occupation in the most first reports involving bruises, contusion was truck drivers, as seen in Figure 5-4. Table 5-5 shows the top source of injury or illness was floor of building. Walking surfaces combined for 31.1% of the first reports of this nature. It follows that fall to floor, walkway, or other surface was the top event. Multiple body parts ranked first as part of body affected. The top-ranked age group was 35-44 years and the highest-ranked length-of-service category was under one year.

## Traumatic Injuries and Disorders, Unspecified

**TABLE 5-6: Characteristics of Traumatic Injuries and Disorders, Unspecified**

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS	OCCUPATION	FROI	%
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	70	8.3
	Truck drivers	56	6.7
	Laborers, except construction	36	4.3
	Janitors and cleaners	35	4.2
	Stock handlers and baggers	27	3.2
EVENT OF INJURY/ILLNESS	Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	132	15.7
	Overexertion in lifting	87	10.3
	Nonclassifiable	49	5.8
	Overexertion, unspecified	37	4.4
	Slip, trip, loss of balance – without fall	31	3.7
SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS	Bodily motion/position of injured worker	139	16.5
	Floor of building	68	8.1
	Nonclassifiable	68	8.1
	Ground	61	7.3
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	47	5.6
PART OF BODY	Multiple body parts	163	19.4
	Lumbar region	89	10.6
	Knee(s)	89	10.6
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	58	6.9
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	48	5.7

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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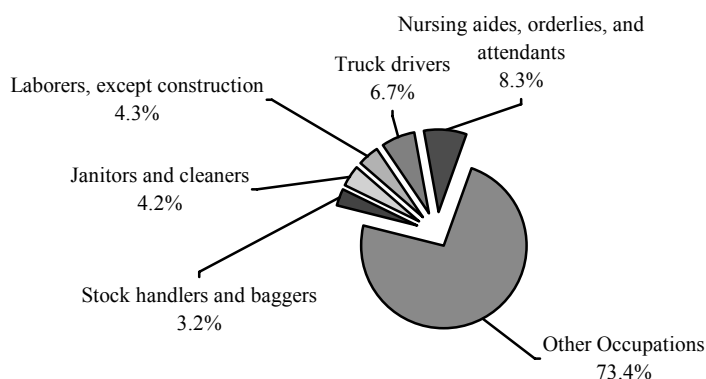
TABLE 5-6, continued

NATURE OF INJURY/ ILLNESS	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
TRAUMATIC INJURIES AND DISORDERS, UNS (841 FROI)	35-44		228	27.1
	45-54		187	22.2
	25-34		171	20.3
	55 and older		131	15.6
	Under 25		124	14.7
	Under 1 year		254	31.8
	2-4 years		177	22.2
	5-14 years		143	17.9
	1 year to 2 years		118	14.8
	15 years and above		107	13.4

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 5-5 shows the five occupations with the most first reports for the traumatic injuries and disorders, unspecified nature for 2003.

FIGURE 5-5: Occupations - Traumatic Injuries and Disorders, UNS  
(841 First Reports)



From Figure 5-5, the occupation for this nature filing the most first reports in 2003 was nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants, but other occupations contributed many first reports. As to how workers were injured, Table 5-6 shows that the number one source of injury or illness was bodily motion/position of injured worker and the top reported event was fall to floor, walkway, or other surface. The most often reported body part for all workers was multiple body parts. The top age group was 35 to 44 and the most reported length-of-service category was under one year.

## **SECTION 6: THE TOP FIVE EVENTS OR EXPOSURES**

### **Overview.**

Events or exposures, defined as the manner in which injuries and illnesses are inflicted or produced, are dealt with in this section. Table 6-1 below lists the top five events or exposures in descending order by frequency of first reports for 2003. Together, these five events accounted for 39.3% of all first reports for 2003. Overexertion in lifting was by far the number one reported event followed by fall to floor, walkway, or other surface. These two events accounted for 25.1% of all 2003 first reports.

For each event, the top five each of occupation of the injured worker, nature of the injury or illness, source of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the first reports frequency and percentage for that event. Age of the injured worker and length of service of the injured worker are both broken down into five inclusive categories and these categories are ranked by the frequency of first reports for each. Again, **the tabulated characteristics refer to the event as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics.** For example, the 56.7% of nature (sprains, strains, and tears) in the first row of the third column of Table 6-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported by nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants only but by ALL occupations within overexertion in lifting, including those not listed.

These top five events shared a number of elements in common, although there were differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between them.

- Sprains, strains, and tears ranked first in the nature column for all of the top five events, averaging 39.8%. Nonback soreness, pain, or hurt also appeared under all five events, emphasizing the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders.
- The top length-of-service group affected by all events was under one year. The average proportion was 32.6%.
- Injuries to the lumbar region and to the back, including spine, spinal cord unspecified accounted for an average of 30.4% of first reports for the these top five events.
- The same three occupations that appeared under all top five natures in Section 5 again appear here as affected by all top five events. Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants averaged 7.3% of first reports. Nonconstruction laborers averaged 6.7%, truck drivers 6.5%. Janitors and cleaners also appeared under all top five events. These four occupations are the four top ranking occupations in terms of general first reports in 2003, as seen in Tables 2-2 and 4-1.



**TABLE 6-1: Cross Tabulations of the Top Five Events and the Characteristics of Injuries for Each Event**

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>OCCUPATION*</b>	<b>% FROI</b>	<b>NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*</b>	<b>% FROI</b>	<b>SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*</b>	<b>% FROI</b>
<b>OVEREXERTION IN LIFTING</b> (2,312 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	253 11.0	Sprains, strains, tears	1,310 56.7	Boxes, crates, cartons	406 17.6
	Laborers, except construction	167 7.3	Back pain, hurt back	451 19.5	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	374 16.2
	Janitors and cleaners	129 5.6	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	258 11.2	Bags, sacks, totes	125 5.4
	Truck Drivers	126 5.5	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	87 3.8	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	119 5.1
	Freight/stock/ material handlers, NEC	97 4.2	Hernia, not elsewhere classifiable	48 2.1	Nonclassifiable	85 3.7
<b>FALL TO FLOOR, WALKWAY, OR OTHER SURFACE</b> (1,470 FROI)	Truck Drivers	112 7.6	Sprains, strains, tears	345 23.5	Floor of building	498 33.9
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	78 5.3	Bruises, contusions	252 17.1	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified	362 24.6
	Janitors and cleaners	62 4.2	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	234 15.9	Ground	313 21.3
	Laborers, except construction	57 3.9	Fractures	220 15.0	Parking lots	145 9.9
	Kitchen workers, food preparation	41 2.8	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	132 9.0	Sidewalks, paths, outdoor walkways	52 3.5
<b>OVEREXERTION IN PULLING/PUSHING OBJECTS</b> (760 FROI)	Truck Drivers	79 10.4	Sprains, strains, tears	456 60.0	Cart, dolly, handtruck	96 12.6
	Laborers, except construction	55 7.3	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	127 16.7	Boxes, crates, cartons	33 4.3
	Janitors and cleaners	49 6.5	Back pain, hurt back	91 12.0	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	33 4.3
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	44 5.8	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	29 3.8	Doors	27 3.6
	Stock handlers and baggers	42 5.5	Hernia, not elsewhere classifiable	15 2.0	Hoses	25 3.3
<b>OVEREXERTION, UNSPECIFIED</b> (715 FROI)	Laborers, except construction	61 8.5	Sprains, strains, tears	318 44.5	Nonclassifiable	299 41.8
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	56 7.8	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	164 22.9	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	152 21.3
	Janitors and cleaners	41 5.7	Back pain, hurt back	123 17.2	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	47 6.6
	Truck Drivers	32 4.5	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	37 5.2	Tires, except bike	9 1.3
	Maids and housemen	20 2.8	Tendonitis	12 1.7	Tools, instruments and equipment, unspecified	8 1.1
<b>NONCLASSIFIABLE</b> (656 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	43 6.6	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	201 30.6	Nonclassifiable	629 95.9
	Laborers, except construction	43 6.6	Sprains, strains, tears	93 14.2	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	3 0.5
	Truck Drivers	28 4.3	Back pain, hurt back	78 11.9	Hand grinders -- powered	2 0.3
	Janitors and cleaners	21 3.2	Nonclassifiable	70 10.7	Ladders, unspecified	2 0.3
	Kitchen workers, food preparation	18 2.8	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	49 7.5	Bottles, jugs, flasks	1 0.2

*These columns refer to the event indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.*

UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification. **Continued next page.**

TABLE 6-1, continued

EVENT	PART OF BODY*	FROI		AGE OF INJURED WORKER*		FROI		LENGTH OF SERVICE *		FROI	%
			%		%		%		%		
<b>OVEREXERTION IN LIFTING</b> (2,312 FROI)	Lumbar region	701	30.3	35-44	653	28.2	Under 1 year	814	36.0		
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	489	21.2	25-34	524	22.7	5-14 years	469	20.8		
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	229	9.9	45-54	513	22.2	2-4 years	401	17.8		
	Multiple body parts	119	5.1	Under 25	373	16.1	1 year to 2 years	341	15.1		
	Thoracic region	76	3.3	55 and older	249	10.8	15 years and above	233	10.3		
<b>FALL TO FLOOR, WALKWAY, OR OTHER SURFACE</b> (1,470 FROI)	Multiple body parts	321	21.8	45-54	384	26.1	Under 1 year	464	32.3		
	Knee(s)	197	13.4	55 and older	325	22.1	5-14 years	324	22.6		
	Ankle(s)	119	8.1	35-44	317	21.6	2-4 years	284	19.8		
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	95	6.5	25-34	284	19.3	1 year to 2 years	182	12.7		
	Lumbar region	89	6.1	Under 25	160	10.9	15 years and above	182	12.7		
<b>OVEREXERTION IN PULLING/PUSHING OBJECTS</b> (760 FROI)	Lumbar region	162	21.3	35-44	240	31.6	Under 1 year	236	31.9		
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	107	14.1	45-54	176	23.2	5-14 years	162	21.9		
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	105	13.8	25-34	153	20.1	2-4 years	147	19.9		
	Multiple body parts	50	6.6	55 and older	104	13.7	1 year to 2 years	102	13.8		
	Knee(s)	46	6.1	Under 25	87	11.4	15 years and above	93	12.6		
<b>OVEREXERTION, UNSPECIFIED</b> (715 FROI)	Lumbar region	140	19.6	35-44	238	33.3	Under 1 year	222	32.0		
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	118	16.5	45-54	176	24.6	5-14 years	150	21.6		
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	96	13.4	25-34	142	19.9	2-4 years	137	19.7		
	Multiple body parts	66	9.2	Under 25	90	12.6	15 years and above	97	14.0		
	Knee(s)	39	5.5	55 and older	69	9.7	1 year to 2 years	88	12.7		
<b>NONCLASSIFIABLE</b> (656 FROI)	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	91	13.9	35-44	190	29.0	Under 1 year	195	30.7		
	Multiple body parts	65	9.9	45-54	179	27.3	5-14 years	150	23.6		
	Lumbar region	62	9.5	25-34	125	19.1	2-4 years	120	18.9		
	Knee(s)	54	8.2	55 and older	89	13.6	15 years and above	95	14.9		
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	50	7.6	Under 25	73	11.1	1 year to 2 years	76	11.9		

\* These columns refer to the event indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.**

UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification

Overexertion in Lifting

TABLE 6-2: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Overexertion in Lifting

<b>EVENT</b>  <b>OVEREXERTION IN LIFTING</b>  (2,312 FROI)	<b>OCCUPATION</b>	<b>FROI</b>	<b>%</b>
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	253	11.0
	Laborers, except construction	167	7.3
	Janitors and cleaners	129	5.6
	Truck Drivers	126	5.5
	Freight/stock/ material handlers, NEC	97	4.2
	<b>NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>		
	Sprains, strains, tears	1,310	56.7
	Back pain, hurt back	451	19.5
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	258	11.2
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	87	3.8
	Hernia, not elsewhere classifiable	48	2.1
	<b>SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS</b>		
	Boxes, crates, cartons	406	17.6
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	374	16.2
	Bags, sacks, totes	125	5.4
	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	119	5.1
	Nonclassifiable	85	3.7
	<b>PART OF BODY</b>		
	Lumbar region	701	30.3
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	489	21.2
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	229	9.9
	Multiple body parts	119	5.1
	Thoracic region	76	3.3

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease  
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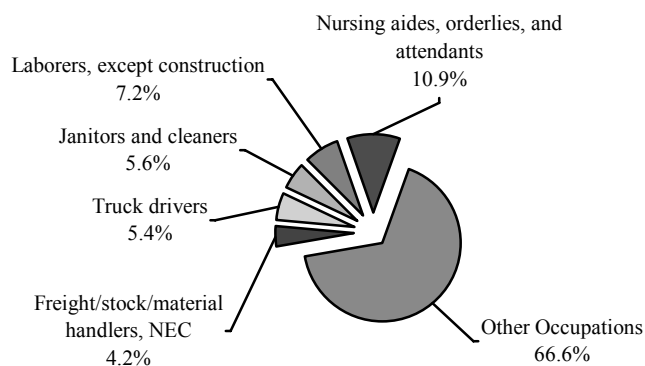
TABLE 6-2, continued

EVENT	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
OVEREXERTION IN LIFTING (2,312 FROI)	35-44		653	28.2
	25-34		524	22.7
	45-54		513	22.2
	Under 25		373	16.1
	55 and older		249	10.8
	Under 1 year		814	36.0
	5-14 years		469	20.8
	2-4 years		401	17.8
	1 year to 2 years		341	15.1
	15 years and above		233	10.3

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 6-1 shows the top five occupations reporting overexertion in lifting as the event leading to an injury in 2003.

FIGURE 6-1: Occupations - Overexertion in Lifting  
(2,312 First Reports)



As shown in Figure 6-1, the occupation involved in the most first reports resulting from overexertion in lifting in 2003 was nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants. In Table 6-2, the top nature of injury or illness was sprains, strains, and tears and the top source of injuries and illnesses connected with this event was boxes, crates, cartons. The part of body most affected in 2003 first reports involving overexertion in lifting was the lumbar region. The top-ranked age group was 35-44 years and the top length-of-service group was under one year.

**Fall to Floor, Walkway, or Other Surface**

**TABLE 6-3: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Fall to Floor, Walkway, or Other Surface.**

EVENT	OCCUPATION		FROI	%
	Truck Drivers		112	7.6
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		78	5.3
	Janitors and cleaners		62	4.2
	Laborers, except construction		57	3.9
	Kitchen workers, food preparation		41	2.8
FALL TO FLOOR, WALKWAY, OR OTHER SURFACE (1,470 FROI)	NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Sprains, strains, tears		345	23.5
	Bruises, contusions		252	17.1
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		234	15.9
	Fractures		220	15.0
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS		132	9.0
	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Floor of building		498	33.9
	Floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified		362	24.6
	Ground		313	21.3
	Parking lots		145	9.9
	Sidewalks, paths, outdoor walkways		52	3.5
	PART OF BODY			
	Multiple body parts		321	21.8
	Knee(s)		197	13.4
	Ankle(s)		119	8.1
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		95	6.5
	Lumbar region		89	6.1

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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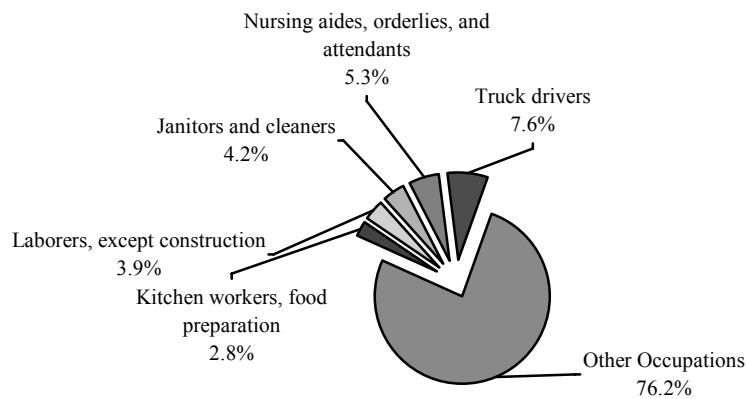
TABLE 6-3, continued

EVENT	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
FALL TO FLOOR, WALKWAY, OR OTHER SURFACE (1,470 FROI)	45-54		384	26.1
	55 and older		325	22.1
	35-44		317	21.6
	25-34		284	19.3
	Under 25		160	10.9
	Under 1 year		464	32.3
	5-14 years		324	22.6
	2-4 years		284	19.8
	1 year to 2 years		182	12.7
	15 years and above		182	12.7

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

The top five occupations, in terms of first reports recorded in 2003, for the fall to floor, walkway, or other surface event or exposure are shown in Figure 6-2.

FIGURE 6-2: Occupations - Fall to Floor, Walkway, or Other Surface  
(1,470 First Reports)



As shown in Figure 6-2, under this event, truck drivers was the top occupation. From Table 6-3, the highest-ranking nature was sprains, strains, and tears and the number one source was floor of building. The part of body involved in the most first reports was multiple body parts. The age group most often involved in a first report was 45-54 years and the length-of-service category was under one year.

## Overexertion in Pulling/Pushing Objects

**TABLE 6-4: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Overexertion in Pulling/Pushing Objects**

EVENT	OCCUPATION		FROI	%
	Truck Drivers		79	10.4
	Laborers, except construction		55	7.3
	Janitors and cleaners		49	6.5
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		44	5.8
	Stock handlers and baggers		42	5.5
OVEREXERTION IN PULLING/PUSHING OBJECTS (760 FROI)	NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Sprains, strains, tears		456	60.0
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		127	16.7
	Back pain, hurt back		91	12.0
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS		29	3.8
	Hernia, not elsewhere classifiable		15	2.0
	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Cart, dolly, handtruck		96	12.6
	Boxes, crates, cartons		33	4.3
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility		33	4.3
	Doors		27	3.6
	Hoses		25	3.3
	PART OF BODY			
	Lumbar region		140	19.6
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS		118	16.5
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		96	13.4
	Multiple body parts		66	9.2
	Knee(s)		39	5.5

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

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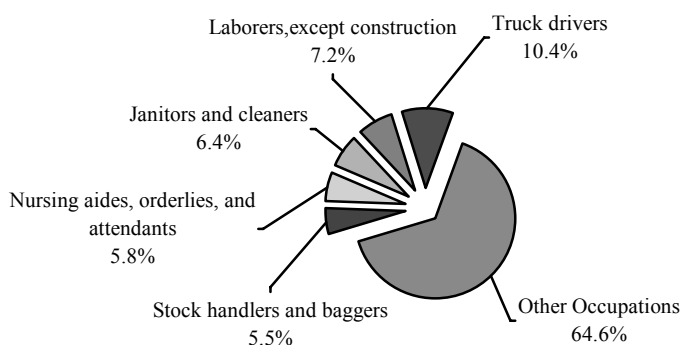
TABLE 6-4, continued

EVENT	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
OVEREXERTION IN PULLING/PUSHING OBJECTS (760 FROI)	35-44		240	31.6
	45-54		176	23.2
	25-34		153	20.1
	55 and older		104	13.7
	Under 25		87	11.4
	Under 1 year		236	31.9
	5-14 years		162	21.9
	2-4 years		147	19.9
	1 year to 2 years		102	13.8
	15 years and above		93	12.6

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

In Figure 6-4, the top five occupations, in terms of first reports recorded in 2003, for the overexertion in pulling/pushing objects event are shown.

FIGURE 6-3: Occupations - Overexertion in Pulling/Pushing Objects  
(760 First Reports)



The occupation involved in the most first reports originating with this event was truck drivers, as seen in Figure 6-3. Table 6-4 shows sprains, strains, and tears was the top ranking nature. The top source of injury or illness was cart, dolly, or handtruck. Lumbar region was the first ranked part of body affected. The top-ranked age group was 35-44 years. Of note, there was a 33% increase in first reports (78 to 104) from 2002 to 2003 affecting workers age 55 and older. The most-reported length-of-service category was under one year.



**Overexertion, Unspecified**

**TABLE 6-5: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Overexertion, Unspecified**

EVENT	OCCUPATION	FROI	%
	Laborers, except construction	61	8.5
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	56	7.8
	Janitors and cleaners	41	5.7
	Truck Drivers	32	4.5
	Maids and housemen	20	2.8
OVEREXERTION, UNSPECIFIED* (715 FROI)	NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Sprains, strains, tears	318	44.5
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	164	22.9
	Back pain, hurt back	123	17.2
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS	37	5.2
	Tendonitis	12	1.7
	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS		
	Nonclassifiable	299	41.8
	Other sources, not elsewhere classifiable	152	21.3
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility	47	6.6
	Tires, except bike	9	1.3
	Tools, instruments and equipment, unspecified	8	1.1
	PART OF BODY		
	Lumbar region	149	19.2
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified	117	15.1
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	99	12.8
	Multiple body parts	88	11.3
	Knee(s)	41	5.3

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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\* Unspecified denotes insufficient data for more detailed classification

TABLE 6-5, continued

EVENT	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE OF INJURED WORKER			
OVEREXERTION, UNSPECIFIED (715 FROI)	35-44		238	33.3
	45-54		176	24.6
	25-34		142	19.9
	Under 25		90	12.6
	55 and older		69	9.7
	Under 1 year		222	32.0
	5-14 years		150	21.6
	2-4 years		137	19.7
	15 years and above		97	14.0
	1 year to 2 years		88	12.7

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 6-4 presents the five occupations reporting the highest frequency of 2003 first reports within the overexertion, unspecified event.

FIGURE 6-4: Occupations - Overexertion, Unspecified  
(715 First Reports)

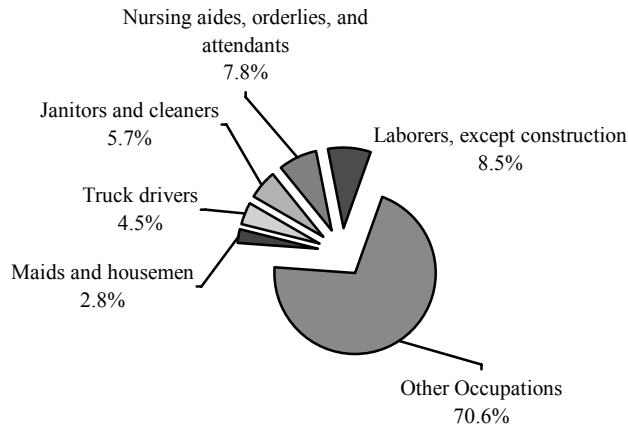


Figure 6-4 shows that the occupation producing the most first reports involving overexertion, unspecified was nonconstruction laborers. A wide variety of occupations contributed to the 2003 first reports for this event. According to Table 6-5, the top nature was sprains, strains, tears and the top source of injury or illness was other nonclassifiable – that is, sources inadequately described for the standard coding classifications. The part of body affected most often reported was lumbar region. The age group generating the most first reports was 35-44 years and the highest-ranking length-of-service category was under one year.

Nonclassifiable

**TABLE 6-6: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Nonclassifiable Events**

EVENT	OCCUPATION		FROI	%
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		43	6.6
	Laborers, except construction		43	6.6
	Truck Drivers		28	4.3
	Janitors and cleaners		21	3.2
	Kitchen workers, food preparation		18	2.8
NONCLASSIFIABLE (656 FROI)	NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		201	30.6
	Sprains, strains, tears		93	14.2
	Back pain, hurt back		78	11.9
	Nonclassifiable		70	10.7
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, UNS		49	7.5
NONCLASSIFIABLE (656 FROI)	SOURCE OF INJURY/ILLNESS			
	Nonclassifiable		629	95.9
	Health care patient/resident of health care facility		3	0.5
	Hand grinders -- powered		2	0.3
	Ladders, unspecified		2	0.3
	Bottles, jugs, flasks		1	0.2
NONCLASSIFIABLE (656 FROI)	PART OF BODY			
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS		91	13.9
	Multiple body parts		65	9.9
	Lumbar region		62	9.5
	Knee(s)		54	8.2
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		50	7.6

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.  
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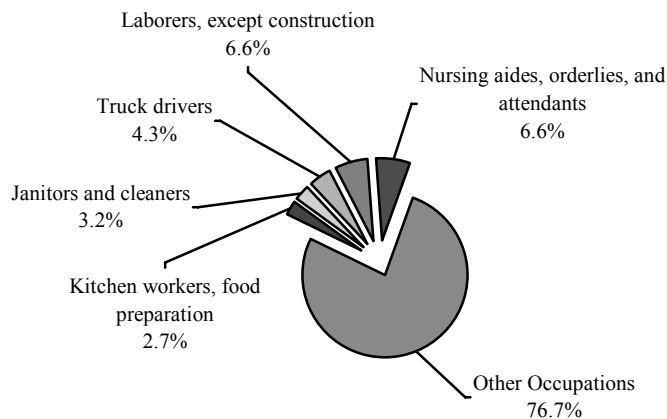
TABLE 6-6, continued

EVENT	AGE OF INJURED WORKER		FROI	%
	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
NONCLASSIFIABLE (656 FROI)	35-44		190	29.0
	45-54		179	27.3
	25-34		125	19.1
	55 and older		89	13.6
	Under 25		73	11.1
	Under 1 year		195	30.7
	5-14 years		150	23.6
	2-4 years		120	18.9
	15 years and above		95	14.9
	1 year to 2 years		76	11.9

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.

Figure 6-5 shows the five occupations with the most first reports for the nonclassifiable event for 2003.

FIGURE 6-5: Occupations -Nonclassifiable Events  
(656 First Reports)



From Figure 6-5, the tied occupations for this event filing the most first reports in 2003 were nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants and nonconstruction laborers, but all of the top five are close. Table 6-6 shows that the top reported nature of injury or illness was nonback soreness, pain, or hurt. As to how workers were injured, almost the only source of injury or illness was nonclassifiable. The back was the most often reported body part. The top age group was 35 to 44 and the most reported length-of-service category was under one year.

## **SECTION 7: THE TOP FIVE SOURCES OF INJURY OR ILLNESS**

### **Overview**

Source of injury or illness identifies the object, substance, bodily motion, or work environment that directly produced or inflicted the injury or illness. Taken together with event (Section 6), source provides a picture of how workers are being injured on the job. Information on the five sources with the highest frequencies of first reports for 2003 is presented in this section. Table 7-1 below lists the top five sources in descending order. Together, these five sources accounted for 40.4% of all first reports for 2003. Bodily motion/ position of injured worker fell in first place, itself accounting for 18.6% of the 2003 total.

For each source, the top five each of occupation, nature of the injury or illness, and part of the body affected are tabulated by the first reports frequency and percentage for that occupation. Age of the injured worker and length of service of the injured worker are both broken down into five inclusive categories and these categories are ranked by the frequency of first reports for each. Again, **the tabulated characteristics refer to the source as a whole, not to the other tabulated characteristics.** For example, the 39.8% of nature (sprains, strains, and tears) in the first row of the third column of Table 7-1 are NOT injuries and illnesses reported by truck drivers only but by ALL occupations within bodily motion/position of injured worker, including those occupations not listed.

While there were considerable differences in characteristics of injuries and illnesses between these top five sources, a few elements were shared in common

- Sprains, strains, and tears was the first or second place reported nature for all top five sources, averaging 32.8% of first reports.
- As in Sections 4 through 6, the top length-of-service group was under one year, averaging 34.2% of first reports for the top five sources of injury or illness. This evidence strongly suggests that intervention efforts should be directed toward new hires.
- Multiple body parts was a part of body common to all five sources, averaging 14.7% of first reports. Lumbar region also appeared in all five, averaging 11.6% but ranging from 5.0% to 23.4%.

**TABLE 7-1: Cross Tabulations of the Top Five Sources and the Characteristics of Injuries for Each Source**

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>OCCUPATION*</b>	<b>ROI</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>NATURE OF INJURY/ILLNESS*</b>	<b>ROI</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>PART OF BODY*</b>	<b>ROI</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>BODILY MOTION/ POSITION OF INJURED WORKER</b> (2,797 FROI)	Truck Drivers	125	4.5	Sprains, strains, tears	1,113	39.8	Knee(s)	382	13.7
	Laborers, except construction	107	3.8	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	709	25.3	Wrist(s)	344	12.3
	Cashiers	95	3.4	Back pain, hurt back	247	8.8	Lumbar region	303	10.8
	Janitors and cleaners	95	3.4	Carpal tunnel syndrome	179	6.4	Ankle(s)	265	9.5
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	89	3.2	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	139	5.0	Multiple body parts	238	8.5
<b>NONCLASSIFIABLE</b> (1,237 FROI)	Laborers, except construction	85	6.9	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	328	25.9	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	179	14.5
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	66	5.4	Sprains, strains, tears	287	23.2	Lumbar region	134	10.8
	Truck Drivers	51	4.1	Back pain, hurt back	156	12.6	Multiple body parts	109	8.8
	Janitors and cleaners	45	3.7	Nonclassifiable	75	6.1	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	104	8.4
	Freight/stock/material handlers, NEC	33	2.7	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	68	5.5	Knee(s)	85	6.9
<b>HEALTH CARE PATIENT/RESIDENT OF HEALTH CARE FACILITY</b> (717 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	446	62.5	Sprains, strains, tears	384	53.6	Lumbar region	168	23.4
	Registered nurses	96	13.4	Back pain, hurt back	105	14.6	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	137	19.1
	Health aides, excluding nursing	62	8.7	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	105	14.6	Multiple body parts	90	12.6
	Health technologists/technicians, NEC	17	2.4	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	47	6.6	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	59	8.2
	Licensed practical nurses	14	2.0	Bruises, contusions	21	2.9	Wrist(s)	27	3.8
<b>FLOOR OF BUILDING</b> (705 FROI)	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	45	6.4	Sprains, strains, tears	151	21.4	Multiple body parts	174	24.7
	Kitchen workers, food preparation	29	4.1	Bruises, contusions	121	17.2	Knee(s)	126	17.9
	Janitors and cleaners	28	4.0	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	118	16.7	Ankle(s)	48	6.8
	Cooks	27	3.8	Fractures	101	14.3	Lumbar region	35	5.0
	Stock handlers and baggers	24	3.4	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	68	9.6	Wrist(s)	35	5.0
<b>FLOORS, WALKWAYS, GROUND SURFACES UNSPECIFIED</b> (628 FROI)	Truck Drivers	72	11.6	Sprains, strains, tears	162	25.8	Multiple body parts	119	18.9
	Carpenters	35	5.6	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	107	17.0	Knee(s)	77	12.3
	Janitors and cleaners	28	4.5	Fractures	96	15.3	Ankle(s)	65	10.4
	Laborers, except construction	27	4.3	Bruises, contusions	91	14.5	Lumbar region	49	7.8
	Construction laborers	23	3.7	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified	41	6.5	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	43	6.8

\* These columns refer to the source indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. **FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease.** UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification. **Continued next page.**

TABLE 7-1, continued

SOURCE	AGE OF INJURED WORKER*		LENGTH OF SERVICE *		FROI	%
BODILY MOTION/ POSITION OF INJURED WORKER (2,797 FROI)	35-44	799	28.6	Under 1 year	714	26.1
	45-54	774	27.7	5-14 years	661	24.2
	25-34	530	18.9	2-4 years	538	19.7
	55 and older	400	14.3	15 years and above	496	18.1
	Under 25	294	10.5	1 year to 2 years	326	11.9
NONCLASSIFIABLE (1,237 FROI)	35-44	361	29.2	Under 1 year	363	30.5
	45-54	317	25.6	5-14 years	272	22.8
	25-34	249	20.1	2-4 years	231	19.4
	55 and older	156	12.6	15 years and above	173	14.5
	Under 25	154	12.4	1 year to 2 years	153	12.8
HEALTH CARE PATIENT/RESIDENT OF HEALTH CARE FACILITY (717 FROI)	25-34	208	29.0	Under 1 year	313	44.9
	35-44	186	25.9	1 year to 2 years	124	17.8
	45-54	153	21.3	2-4 years	116	16.6
	Under 25	108	15.1	5-14 years	113	16.2
	55 and older	62	8.6	15 years and above	31	4.4
FLOOR OF BUILDING (705 FROI)	45-54	169	24.0	Under 1 year	239	35.1
	35-44	167	23.7	5-14 years	134	19.7
	55 and older	161	22.8	2-4 years	116	17.1
	25-34	122	17.3	15 years and above	111	16.3
	Under 25	86	12.2	1 year to 2 years	80	11.8
FLOORS, WALKWAYS, GROUND SURFACES UNSPECIFIED (628 FROI)	35-44	162	25.8	Under 1 year	210	34.5
	45-54	140	22.3	5-14 years	135	22.2
	25-34	130	20.7	2-4 years	114	18.7
	55 and older	130	20.7	1 year to 2 years	80	13.1
	Under 25	66	10.5	15 years and above	70	11.5

\* These columns refer to the source indicated, not to other columns or entries within those columns. FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease. UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification. NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications. Nonclassifiable = insufficient data for classification

## Bodily Motion/Position of Injured Worker

**TABLE 7-2: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Bodily Motion/Position of Injured Worker**

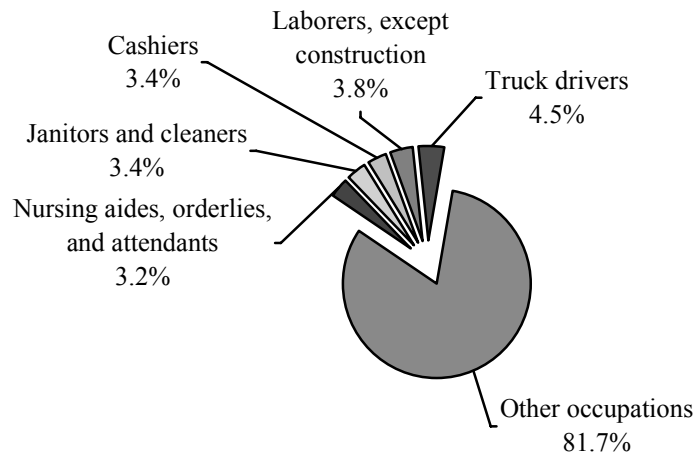
SOURCE	OCCUPATION		FROI	%
	Truck Drivers		125	4.5
	Laborers, except construction		107	3.8
	Cashiers		95	3.4
	Janitors and cleaners		95	3.4
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		89	3.2
BODILY MOTION/ POSITION OF INJURED WORKER (2,797 FROI)	NATURE OF INJURY OR ILLNESS			
	Sprains, strains, tears		1,113	39.8
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		709	25.3
	Back pain, hurt back		247	8.8
	Carpal tunnel syndrome		179	6.4
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified		139	5.0
BODILY MOTION/ POSITION OF INJURED WORKER (2,797 FROI)	PART OF BODY			
	Knee(s)		382	13.7
	Wrist(s)		344	12.3
	Lumbar region		303	10.8
	Ankle(s)		265	9.5
	Multiple body parts		238	8.5
BODILY MOTION/ POSITION OF INJURED WORKER (2,797 FROI)	AGE OF INJURED WORKER			
	35-44		799	28.6
	45-54		774	27.7
	25-34		530	18.9
	55 and older		400	14.3
	Under 25		294	10.5
BODILY MOTION/ POSITION OF INJURED WORKER (2,797 FROI)	LENGTH OF SERVICE			
	Under 1 year		714	26.1
	5-14 years		661	24.2
	2-4 years		538	19.7
	15 years and above		496	18.1
	1 year to 2 years		326	11.9

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease



Figure 7-1 presents the five occupations reporting the highest frequency of 2003 first reports within the bodily motion/position of injured worker source.

**FIGURE 7-1: Occupations - Bodily Motion/Position of Injured Worker  
(2,797 First Reports)**



As can be seen in Figure 7-1, truck drivers were involved in the highest proportion of first reports in 2003. Table 7-2 shows that the number one nature of injury or illness for this source was sprains, strains, and tears. The most often reported body part for all workers was knee(s). The top age group affected by this source of injury or illness was 35-44 years and the predominant length-of-service group was under one year.

## Nonclassifiable

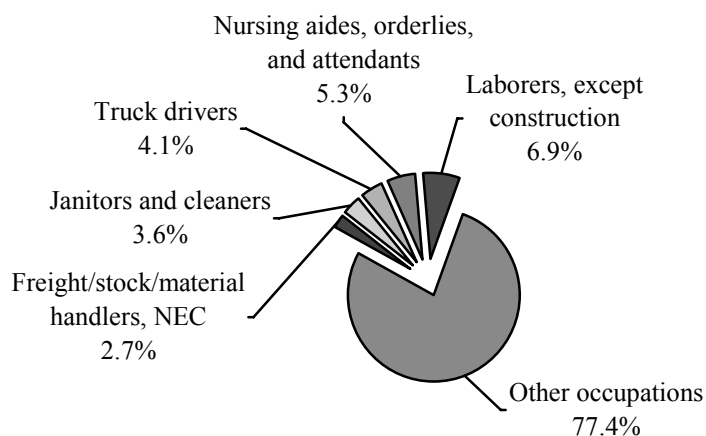
**TABLE 7-3: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Nonclassifiable Sources**

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>		FROI	%
	Laborers, except construction		85	6.9
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		66	5.4
	Truck Drivers		51	4.1
	Janitors and cleaners		45	3.7
	Freight/stock/material handlers, not elsewhere classifiable		33	2.7
	<b>NATURE</b>			
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		328	25.9
	Sprains, strains, tears		287	23.2
	Back pain, hurt back		156	12.6
	Nonclassifiable		75	6.1
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified		68	5.5
	<b>PART OF BODY</b>			
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS		179	14.5
	Lumbar region		134	10.8
	Multiple body parts		109	8.8
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		104	8.4
	Knee(s)		85	6.9
	<b>AGE OF INJURED WORKER</b>			
	35-44		361	29.2
	45-54		317	25.6
	25-34		249	20.1
	55 and older		156	12.6
	Under 25		154	12.4
	<b>LENGTH OF SERVICE</b>			
	Under 1 year		363	30.5
	5-14 years		272	22.8
	2-4 years		231	19.4
	15 years and above		173	14.5
	1 year to 2 years		153	12.8

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury and Disease

Figure 7-2 below shows the five occupations with the greatest number of first reports under the nonclassifiable source for 2003.

**FIGURE 7-2: Occupations - Nonclassifiable Sources (1,237 First Reports)**



In terms of occupation, nonconstruction laborers, ranked first according to Figure 7-2. Table 7-3 shows that the top nature of injury or illness was nonback soreness, pain, or hurt. The back was the body part involved in the most first reports. When combined with the second place part, lumbar region, it can be seen that the back in general produced 25.3% of the first reports from this source. The first ranked age group was again 35-44 years and the top length-of-service category was under one year.

## Health Care Patient/Resident of Health Care Facility

**TABLE 7-4: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Health Care Patient/Resident of Health Care Facility**

SOURCE	OCCUPATION		FROI	%
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		446	62.5
	Registered nurses		96	13.4
	Health aides, excluding nursing		62	8.7
	Health technologists/technicians, NEC		17	2.4
	Licensed practical nurses		14	2.0
HEALTH CARE PATIENT/RESIDENT OF HEALTH CARE FACILITY (717 FROI)	NATURE OF INJURY OR ILLNESS			
	Sprains, strains, tears		384	53.6
	Back pain, hurt back		105	14.6
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		105	14.6
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified		47	6.6
	Bruises, contusions		21	2.9
PART OF BODY	Lumbar region		168	23.4
	Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS		137	19.1
	Multiple body parts		90	12.6
	Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula		59	8.2
	Wrist(s)		27	3.8
AGE OF INJURED WORKER	25-34		208	29.0
	35-44		186	25.9
	45-54		153	21.3
	Under 25		108	15.1
	55 and older		62	8.6
LENGTH OF SERVICE	Under 1 year		313	44.9
	1 year to 2 years		124	17.8
	2-4 years		116	16.6
	5-14 years		113	16.2
	15 years and above		31	4.4

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease

Figure 7-3 presents the five occupations identified in the highest frequency of 2003 first reports due to the health care patient/resident of health care facility source.

**FIGURE 7-3: Occupations - Health Care Patient/Resident of Health Care Facility (717 First Reports)**

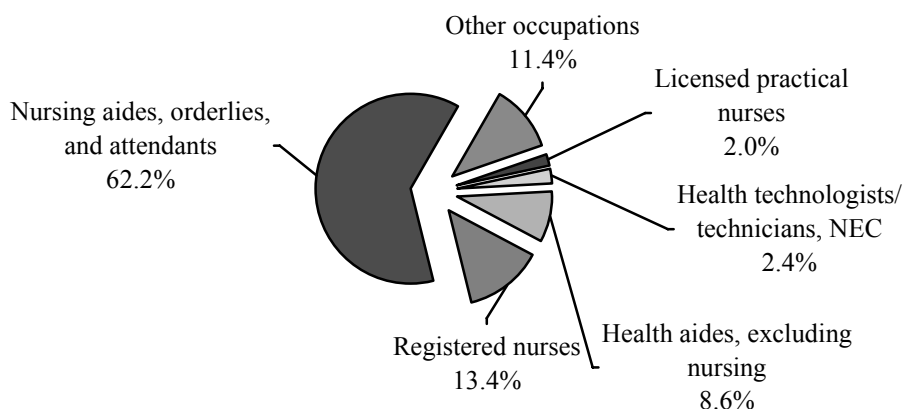


Figure 7-3 differs considerably in appearance from preceding occupation pie charts. Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants, together with registered nurses, accounted for over 75% of first reports where the health care patient/resident of health care facility was identified as the source of the injury or illness. From Table 7-4, the top ranked nature of injury or illness was sprains, strains, and tears. Lumbar region was the most reported injured body part, and injuries to the back, also including back, including spine, spinal cord, unspecified, accounted for 42.5% of all first reports for this source. The top ranking age group was 25-34 years and the top length-of-service group was under one year.

## Floor of Building

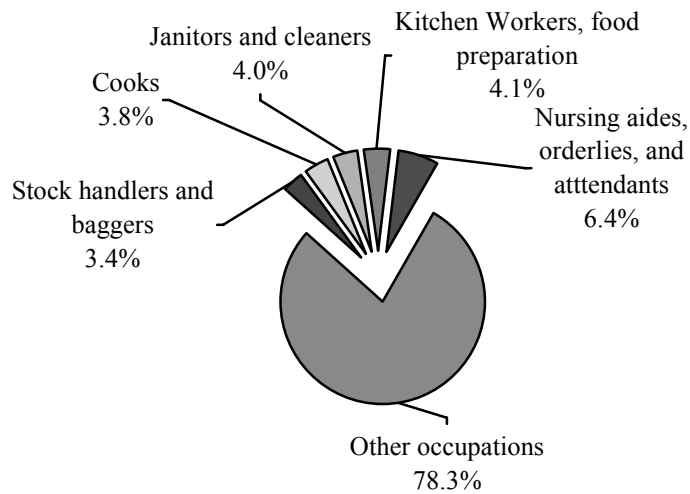
**TABLE 7-5: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Floor of Building**

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>OCCUPATION</b>		FROI	%
	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		45	6.4
	Kitchen workers, food preparation		29	4.1
	Janitors and cleaners		28	4.0
	Cooks		27	3.8
	Stock handlers and baggers		24	3.4
	<b>NATURE</b>			
	Sprains, strains, tears		151	21.4
	Bruises, contusions		121	17.2
	Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		118	16.7
	Fractures		101	14.3
	Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified		68	9.6
<b>FLOOR OF BUILDING</b> (705 FROI)	<b>PART OF BODY</b>			
	Multiple body parts		174	24.7
	Knee(s)		126	17.9
	Ankle(s)		48	6.8
	Lumbar region		35	5.0
	Wrist(s)		35	5.0
	<b>AGE OF INJURED WORKER</b>			
	45-54		169	24.0
	35-44		167	23.7
	55 and older		161	22.8
	25-34		122	17.3
	Under 25		86	12.2
	<b>LENGTH OF SERVICE</b>			
	Under 1 year		239	35.1
	5-14 years		134	19.7
	2-4 years		116	17.1
	15 years and above		111	16.3
	1 year to 2 years		80	11.8

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury or Disease

The top five occupations, in terms of first reports in 2003, for the floor of building source are shown in Figure 7-4.

**FIGURE 7-4: Occupations - Floor of Building (705 First Reports)**



Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants ranked first among occupations affected by this source, but, as shown in Figure 7-4, many other occupations reported injuries and illnesses due to floor of building. Sprains, strains, and tears was the top nature of injury or illness, as seen in Table 7-5. The number one part of body affected was multiple body parts. The top age group was 45-54 years. Of note, from 2002 to 2003 there was a 25% decrease (113 to 86) in first reports involving workers under age 25. The top length-of-service category was under one year.

## Floors, Walkways, Ground Surfaces, Unspecified

**TABLE 7-6: Characteristics of Injuries and Illnesses Due to Floors, Walkways, Ground Surfaces, Unspecified**

<b>OCCUPATION</b>		<b>FROI</b>	<b>%</b>
Truck Drivers		72	11.6
Carpenters		35	5.6
Janitors and cleaners		28	4.5
Laborers, except construction		27	4.3
Construction laborers		23	3.7

<b>NATURE</b>		<b>FROI</b>	<b>%</b>
Sprains, strains, tears		162	25.8
Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back		107	17.0
Fractures		96	15.3
Bruises, contusions		91	14.5
Traumatic injuries & disorders, unspecified		41	6.5

<b>SOURCE</b>		<b>PART OF BODY</b>	
<b>FLOORS, WALKWAYS, GROUND SURFACES UNSPECIFIED</b>			
(628 FROI)			

Multiple body parts	119	18.9
Knee(s)	77	12.3
Ankle(s)	65	10.4
Lumbar region	49	7.8
Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	43	6.8

<b>AGE OF INJURED WORKER</b>		
35-44	162	25.8
45-54	140	22.3
25-34	130	20.7
55 and older	130	20.7
Under 25	66	10.5

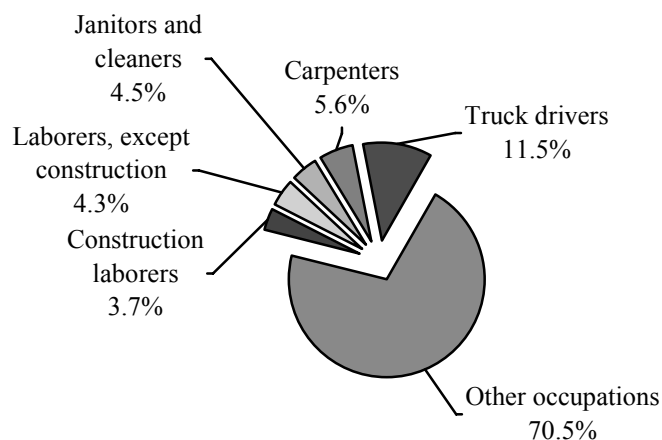
<b>LENGTH OF SERVICE</b>		
Under 1 year	210	34.5
5-14 years	135	22.2
2-4 years	114	18.7
1 year to 2 years	80	13.1
15 years and above	70	11.5

FROI = Employer's First Report of Occupational Injury of Disease



For the floors, walkways, ground surfaces, unspecified source in the year 2003, Figure 7-5 shows the five occupations with the highest frequency of first reports.

**FIGURE 7-5: Occupations - Floors, Walkways, Ground Surfaces, Unspecified (628 First Reports)**



In terms of occupations for this source, as diagrammed in Figure 7-5, truck drivers ranked first, but many occupations contributed to the overall first reports frequency. Sprains, strains, and tears was the most commonly reported nature of injury or illness in Table 7-6. Multiple body parts was the body part producing the highest frequency of reported injury or illness. The 35-44 year age and under one year length-of-service groupings appear at the top of their respective lists.

## SECTION 8: STATISTICAL SERVICES AVAILABLE

### Overview

Besides the information presented in this report, the Maine Department of Labor can produce detailed data by calendar year in a format called a *profile*, available by specific request and at no charge. A profile is a cross-tabulation of characteristics of reported cases resulting in at least one day away from work beyond the day of injury or illness for a given year or years. A profile typically consists of the counts (frequencies) of:

1. Nature of injury or illness
2. Part of body affected
3. Source of injury or illness
4. Event or exposure
5. Occupation of injured or ill worker
6. Industry of injured or ill worker

A profile usually also includes counts of other parameters such as demographics (age, gender, length of service, county of injury, *etc.*), as well as day of the week and month the injury or illness occurred.

Profiles can be requested by anyone who is interested in one or more specific criteria such as an Industry or a geographic area (one or more towns or counties). Also, requests can be made based on specific nature of injury or illness, part of body affected, source of injury or illness, event or exposure, and demographics. Examples of past profiles include:

First reports in the logging Industry

First reports in wholesale plumbing and heating supplies

Amputations

First reports affecting older workers (age 45 and older)

First reports at a specific hospital

First reports occurring in Kennebec County

One can also request a tightly focused profile: *i.e.*, a profile given a narrower scope by cross-tabulating multiple criteria. For example, one could request:

A profile of the back injuries occurring in paper mills (two criteria)

Profile of the retail sales injuries in Somerset County (two criteria)

A profile of injuries to truck drivers age 50 and older (two criteria)

A profile of back injuries occurring to women in the city of Westbrook (three criteria, a three-way cross-tabulation)

Besides the standard profiles available, the Department can respond to special requests on publicly available data in the WCB files: for example, cross-tabulations of nature by part, source by event, age group by length of service, and so forth. Special tables can be run on age groups other than those used in Table 8-1: *e.g.*, looking at workers aged 60-69 *vs.* 70-79.

Under Department policy, profiles of specific *companies* are issued only to confirmed officials of the company requested. Company data is available to others directly from the Maine Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) however. Access to data identifying specific *employees* is restricted and use or release of such information requires the written permission of the WCB. Once permission is granted the Department can fulfill the specific data request. For example, the Department used WCB data to generate an injury profile of recent graduates of a particular college in Maine.

A sample three-way cross-tabulation profile is provided beginning on the next page. It covers janitors and cleaners (occupation) in elementary and secondary schools (Industry) in Cumberland County (geographic location) for the years 2000-2002. The sample profile contains tables for the "standard" characteristics, nature, part, source, and event. Occupation and industry are part of the criteria of selection and are omitted. These tables list both count (frequency) and percent by year, with the years ordered by total number of first reports, rather than chronologically. Additional characteristics include age, length of service, day of the week, and month of injury or illness. The latter three are tabulated by year in chronological order, but age is given only as combined figures for the whole three-year period with columns for cumulative frequency and cumulative percent. This illustrates the variety of forms of presentation possible within a profile. Other characteristics, such as gender of the worker, could have been included or used as criteria.

The sample profile lists ALL disabling cases that meet the criteria, including single-instance examples, and ONLY those cases that meet the criteria. Its results therefore differ from the general results under janitors and cleaners in this report (Table 4-5). For example, fall down stairs or steps appears in the top five events in the year 2002 in the profile (Table 8-5) but not in Table 4-5 of the 2003 general report. In such differences lie the questions that can lead to a safer workplace for janitors and cleaners in primary and secondary schools in Cumberland County. A profile allows examination of a specific area of the available data in detail.

If you have further questions or would like to request a specific profile or special study, please contact Steve Laundrie at the Maine Department of Labor at (207) 624-6447 or e-mail [steven.p.laundrie@maine.gov](mailto:steven.p.laundrie@maine.gov)

## Sample Profile

The following is a three-way cross tabulation, or three-criteria focused data profile, more-or-less as the results would be presented to the requester. There would actually be three additional very brief tables showing that 100% of the 113 cases fit each of the criteria. Several interesting points emerge from this profile:

- The age group reporting the highest frequency of first reports for the time period was 55-59 years, followed closely by 60 and over. Additional research is required in order to determine if janitors and cleaners in schools in Cumberland County were generally older workers or if older workers were being disproportionately injured.
- Overall, and for all three years individually, the dominant nature of injury or illness was sprains, strains, and tears. This points up the importance of musculoskeletal injuries.
- Bodily motion/position of injured worker was the most important source of injury, consistent with the importance of musculoskeletal injuries.
- Overexertion in lifting was the primary event leading to injury, followed by fall to floor, walkway, or other surface. These are equal in frequencies of first reports in both 2000 and 2002.
- The length-of-service grouping reporting the highest frequency of first reports was 5-14 years, followed by under one year. Because under one year is more typically strongly dominant, this opens the question of why the more experienced workers are being injured at a higher rate.

**Table 8-1**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

AGE	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent
19-24	2	1.8	2	1.8
25-29	3	2.7	5	4.4
30-34	6	5.3	11	9.7
35-39	16	14.2	27	23.9
40-44	14	12.4	41	36.3
45-49	16	14.2	57	50.4
50-54	16	14.2	73	64.6
55-59	21	18.6	94	83.2
60+	19	16.8	113	100.0

**Table 8-2**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
 JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Nature of Injury	Total	Disabling Cases					
		2001		2002		2000	
	Number	Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
Total	113	43	100.0	37	100.0	33	100.0
*							
Sprains, strains, tears	40	13	30.2	12	32.4	15	45.5
Soreness, pain, hurt, except the back	18	6	14.0	6	16.2	6	18.2
Traumatic inj & disorders, UNS	13	6	14.0	5	13.5	2	6.1
Back pain, hurt back	12	5	11.6	3	8.1	4	12.1
Bruises, contusions	8	3	7.0	4	10.8	1	3.0
Cuts, lacerations	3	1	2.3	0	0	2	6.1
Neurotic reaction to stress	3	1	2.3	0	0	2	6.1
Punctures, except bites	2	0	0	2	5.4	0	0
Hiatal hernia	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Hernia, NEC	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Dislocations	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Ganglion/cystic tumor	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Tendonitis	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
General symptoms, NEC	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Phlebitis	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Multiple traumatic inj. & disorders UNS	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Surface wounds & bruises, UNS	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Myocardial infarction (heart attack)	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Loss of consciousness – not heat related	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Symptoms, signs & ill-defined cond, UNS	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Fractures	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Other disord of peripheral nerv sys NEC	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.

UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification.

**Table 8-3**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
 JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Part of Body	Total	Disabling Cases					
		2001		2002		2000	
	Number	Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
Total	113	43	100.0	37	100.0	33	100.0
*							
Multiple body parts	18	11	25.6	5	13.5	2	6.1
Back, including spine, spinal cord, UNS	13	4	9.3	3	8.1	6	18.2
Lumbar region	10	3	7.0	3	8.1	4	12.1
Shoulder, including clavicle, scapula	10	2	4.7	3	8.1	5	15.2
Multiple trunk locations	5	2	4.7	1	2.7	2	6.1
Knee(s)	5	1	2.3	3	8.1	1	3.0
Wrist(s)	5	3	7.0	1	2.7	1	3.0
Thoracic region	4	1	2.3	2	5.4	1	3.0
Hand(s), except finger(s)	4	0	0	3	8.1	1	3.0
Foot(feet), except toe(s), UNS	4	1	2.3	2	5.4	1	3.0
Hip(s)	3	1	2.3	1	2.7	1	3.0
Body Systems	3	1	2.3	0	0	2	6.1
Leg(s), UNS	3	2	4.7	0	0	1	3.0
Ankle(s)	3	1	2.3	2	5.4	0	0
Groin	3	2	4.7	1	2.7	0	0
Lower leg(s)	2	1	2.3	0	0	1	3.0
Arm(s), UNS	2	1	2.3	0	0	1	3.0
Multiple foot(feet) locations	2	1	2.3	1	2.7	0	0
Multiple lower extremities locations NC	2	1	2.3	1	2.7	0	0
Head, UNS	2	2	4.7	0	0	0	0
Foot(feet) and ankle(s)	2	0	0	2	5.4	0	0
Finger(s), fingernail(s)	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Stomach organ	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Multiple upper extremities locations, NC	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Internal abdominal location, NEC	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Forehead	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Heart	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Brain	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Multiple leg(s) locations	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.

UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification.

**Table 8-4**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
 JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Source of Injury	Total	Disabling Cases					
		2001		2002		2000	
	Number	Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
Total	113	43	100.0	37	100.0	33	100.0
*							
Bodily motion/position of injured worker	20	7	16.3	7	18.9	6	18.2
Floor of building	9	2	4.7	5	13.5	2	6.1
Tables, worktables	8	4	9.3	1	2.7	3	9.1
Nonclassifiable	7	3	7.0	0	0	4	12.1
Bags, sacks, totes	6	0	0	4	10.8	2	6.1
Floors, walkways, grounds surfaces, UNS	6	0	0	5	13.5	1	3.0
Stairs, steps – indoors	5	2	4.7	0	0	3	9.1
Bodily conditions of injured, ill worker	5	1	2.3	2	5.4	2	6.1
Vacuum cleaners	4	2	4.7	2	5.4	0	0
Chairs	3	2	4.7	0	0	1	3.0
Buckets, baskets, pails	3	2	4.7	0	0	1	3.0
Brooms, mops, and other cleaning tools	3	2	4.7	0	0	1	3.0
Boxes, crates, cartons	3	2	4.7	1	2.7	0	0
Shovels	3	3	7.0	0	0	0	0
Other sources, NEC	3	3	7.0	0	0	0	0
Desks	2	1	2.3	0	0	1	3.0
Parking lots	2	2	4.7	0	0	0	0
Knives	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Ground	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Furniture, UNS	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Furniture, NEC	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Ramps, runway, loading docks	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Handtools – nonpowered, NEC	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Recreation and athletic equipment, NEC	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Barrels, kegs, drums	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Cabinets, cases – display, storage	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Pickup truck	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Tanks, bins, vats	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Tractor	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Paper, books, magazines, NEC	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Dimensional lumber: 2x4, 2x3, etc.	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Windows	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Grandstands, stadia	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Stairs, steps – outdoors	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0

(CONTINUED)

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.

UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification.

**Table 8-4, continued**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
 JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Source of Injury	Total	Disabling Cases					
		2001		2002		2000	
	Number	Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
*							
Rails	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Cranes – portal, tower, pillar	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Ranges/cooking ovens/grills/toasters	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0
Gates	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0



**Table 8-5**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
 JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Event Leading to Injury	Total	Disabling Cases					
		2001		2002		2000	
		Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
Total	113	43	100.0	37	100.0	33	100.0
*							
Overexertion in lifting	22	11	25.6	7	18.9	4	12.1
Fall to floor, walkway or other surface	15	4	9.3	7	18.9	4	12.1
Overexertn holdg/carryg/turng/wieldg obj	8	6	14.0	0	0	2	6.1
Fall down stairs or steps	6	0	0	3	8.1	3	9.1
Overexertion in pulling/pushing objects	6	1	2.3	4	10.8	1	3.0
Repetitive use of tools	5	1	2.3	1	2.7	3	9.1
Bodily conditions, NEC	5	1	2.3	2	5.4	2	6.1
Slip, trip, loss of balance – without fall	5	2	4.7	2	5.4	1	3.0
Overexertion, UNS	4	0	0	2	5.4	2	6.1
Overexertion, NEC	4	2	4.7	0	0	2	6.1
Fall onto or against objects	4	2	4.7	1	2.7	1	3.0
Repetitive motion, UNS	4	0	0	2	5.4	2	6.1
Struck by falling object	4	3	7.0	1	2.7	0	0
Bending/climbing/crawling/reachg/twistg	4	2	4.7	2	5.4	0	0
Nonclassifiable	3	1	2.3	0	0	2	6.1
Struck against stationary object	2	0	0	1	2.7	1	3.0
Bodily reaction and exertion, UNS	2	2	4.7	0	0	0	0
Fall from ladder	2	1	2.3	1	2.7	0	0
Struck by slipping handheld object	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Overexertion in throwing objects	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Fall, UNS	1	0	0	0	0	1	3.0
Bodily reaction, NEC	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Bodily reaction, UNS	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Struck against object, NEC	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Noncollision accident, NEC	1	1	2.3	0	0	0	0
Rubbed/abraded by kneeling on surface	1	0	0	1	2.7	0	0

NEC = Not Elsewhere Classifiable, not fitting available classifications.

UNS = Unspecified, insufficient data for detailed classification.

**Table 8-6**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Length of Service of Injured Worker	Total	Disabling Cases					
		2000		2001		2002	
	Number	Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
Total	113	33	100.0	43	100.0	37	100.0
*							
Unknown	12	0	0	4	9.3	8	21.6
Under 1 Year	19	4	12.1	8	18.6	7	18.9
1 year up to 2 years	6	0	0	4	9.3	2	5.4
2 years up to 3 years	5	2	6.1	3	7.0	0	0
3-4 years	13	5	15.2	4	9.3	4	10.8
5-9 years	23	7	21.2	8	18.6	8	21.6
10-14 years	23	10	30.3	9	20.9	4	10.8
15-19 years	4	2	6.1	1	2.3	1	2.7
20 years and above	8	3	9.1	2	4.7	3	8.1

**Table 8-7**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Day of the Week of Injury	Total	Disabling Cases					
		2000		2001		2002	
	Number	Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
Total	113	33	100.0	43	100.0	37	100.0
*							
Sunday	1	0	0	0	0	1	2.7
Monday	22	9	27.3	4	9.3	9	24.3
Tuesday	22	4	12.1	10	23.3	8	21.6
Wednesday	24	7	21.2	10	23.3	7	18.9
Thursday	23	8	24.2	9	20.9	6	16.2
Friday	15	3	9.1	10	23.3	2	5.4
Saturday	6	2	6.1	0	0	4	10.8

**Table 8-8**

2000 through 2002 Maine Reported Workers' Compensation Disabling Cases  
JANITORS AND CLEANERS IN SCHOOLS IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Month of Injury	Total	Disabling Cases					
		2000		2001		2002	
	Number	Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
Total	113	33	100.0	43	100.0	37	100.0
*							
January	7	4	12.1	1	2.3	2	5.4
February	15	4	12.1	7	16.3	4	10.8
March	15	4	12.1	6	14.0	5	13.5
April	8	1	3.0	3	7.0	4	10.8
May	14	4	12.1	6	14.0	4	10.8
June	12	6	18.2	5	11.6	1	2.7
July	6	1	3.0	2	4.7	3	8.1
August	14	4	12.1	7	16.3	3	8.1
September	6	1	3.0	3	7.0	2	5.4
October	5	0	0	1	2.3	4	10.8
November	4	1	3.0	1	2.3	2	5.4
December	7	3	9.1	1	2.3	3	8.1

